

# The Alliance Herald

Official Paper of Box Butte County

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ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1921.

No. 85

## MINNIE ROSETTA GETS SIXTY-DAY JAIL SENTENCE

### COURT FINDS HER GUILTY OF SELLING HOCH

#### Harry Rosetta Given Fine of \$100 and Costs on Same Count—Appeal Bond Filed

Mrs. Minnie Rosetta, proprietress of the Rodgers rooming house, was found guilty on a charge of selling a pint of moonshine whisky by County Judge Tash in county court Thursday afternoon and given a sentence of sixty days in the county jail. This penalty is the punishment set out in the state prohibitory law for conviction on a second offense. In June of this year, Mrs. Rosetta was fined \$100 and costs.

Harry Rosetta, husband of the first defendant, was found guilty by the court on the same charge, and a fine of \$100 and costs was assessed against him. Both cases were appealed, the bond in Mrs. Rosetta's case being set at \$500, and at \$250 for her husband. The testimony that brought about the conviction was largely furnished by Charles Sanford, state prohibition enforcement agent working under the direction of State Sheriff Gus Hyers. The two cases were among the hardest fought in county court in months. County Attorney Lee Basye prosecuted, and the Rosettas were defended by Attorney H. E. Gantz.

The trial of Mrs. Rosetta began Thursday morning, and was still in progress when the noon recess was taken. Sanford testified that on the night of September 5, he rented a room at the Rodgers rooming house; that Mrs. Rosetta showed him to the room; that in making change, she suggested that he take the balance of what was coming to him in a drink at 50 cents; and that later he purchased a pint of moonshine from her at \$5. The liquor was turned over to the Alliance police.

Mrs. Rosetta's Alibi. To this testimony on the part of the state agent, Mrs. Rosetta's attorney produced testimony to establish an alibi. Mrs. Jessie Hasseltine testified that she was the wife of a laborer living in Alliance and the mother of three children; that she was employed at the Rooming house in washing and ironing; that she had worked there before and that she had been employed there the last time about three weeks. She testified that Mrs. Rosetta was ill on the fifth of September; that she had been taking care of her, and that the defendant left her room only for a few minutes during the evening. This testimony was corroborated by Mrs. Boon.

Dr. Einar V. Blak, physician, testified that he was called to the rooming house on the evening in question between 9:30 and 9:45 p. m., and he remained there until 10:45, and was called back later. The attorney for the defense entered a strenuous objection when County Attorney Basye asked whether Dr. Blak had made an examination of the patient and could testify that she was not shamming illness. Mrs. Rosetta was in bed during the time the doctor was in the rooming house.

Mrs. Rosetta testified that she was arrested in June, but had pleaded guilty on promise by the county attorney that two friends, staying in the house and arrested at the same time, would be released if she did so.

Police officers testified that Mrs. Rosetta was washing dishes in the kitchen at the time the raid was made.

### Case Against Harry Rosetta.

Stanford testified that he had purchased a pint bottle, about a half or a third full of moonshine from Harry Rosetta on the same evening Rosetta was slightly tipsy, he said, and told him that the house was going to be raided—that he had been tipped by the telephone. Sanford said that he asked Rosetta, "What will I do?" Rosetta answered, "Stay right here—if you're arrested, I'll have you out of jail in fifteen minutes."

(Continued on page 8)

## Silk Dress Catches Fire and Ignites Big Tank of Gasoline

The Alliance fire department made a run to 111 Chyrens about 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon, where a tank of gasoline, containing fifty gallons, was on fire. The blaze was in the cleaning quarters of Ted Fielding. Twenty gallons of gasoline had burned before the firemen succeeded in smothering the blaze, and Ted Fielding received some severe burns on one of his arms. The fire started after a silk dress had been dry-cleaned, and while it was being rinsed. The cause is not known, as every precaution is taken against fires. It is thought that possibly the silk dress, which was being rubbed, generated a spark which ignited the gasoline. Mr. Fielding, when the dress blazed up, dropped it into the big vat of gasoline. A peculiar feature of the fire is that the dress sank to the bottom of the tank and the gasoline extinguished the flame, leaving it absolutely uninjured.

## THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska: Generally fair tonight and Wednesday; cooler tonight and east portion Wednesday.

## Burlington Plans New Stockyards Over at Antioch

Antioch News: A few days ago George Dettlein, superintendent of the Alliance Potash plant, was in Alliance and had a talk with Superintendent Gurley of the Burlington relative to the new yard at Antioch, and was assured that as soon as the material arrives the bridge force would be put to work and the yards completed in time for late shipments of coal.

Some three years ago W. C. Wilson and John H. Krause began working on this proposition. A petition was forwarded to the company, pledging shipment of 250 cars of cattle annually from Antioch if the new yards were built. It was shown that all valleys in this section run naturally to Antioch and that the less exertion for cattle not having to climb over hills when driven in for shipment would save many thousand pounds in weight on cattle. After all these years of waiting, efforts have at last proved successful. It was a public spirited act of Mr. Krause donating the site for the yards.

## POLICE FIND NO TRACE OF THE HOLDUPS

### THREE WHO HELD UP MEN IN BOX CAR MAKE GET-AWAY.

#### Plan of Throwing Their Victims Off of Moving Freight Train Gave Advantage.

The city and county police authorities have been unable to find any trace of the three men who are alleged to have held up nine men in a boxcar on a freight train between Angora and Alliance last Thursday night, and it is thought the bandits made a clean getaway with about \$500 worth of loot.

According to stories told the police by two of the victims, who gave their names as Bert Allison of Springfield, O., and Charles Bowen of Barnesville, in the same state, nine men were riding in a boxcar out of Bridgeport, where they had spent an hour or two waiting for the train to pull out. The nine men were all laborers who found it easier to bum a ride than pay passenger fares. At Bridgeport, just as the train was leaving, three men joined the crowd. Nothing happened until after Angora was passed, when the three men, with handkerchiefs over their faces, emerged from the back end of the car and proceeded to hold up the nine others. The loot, including money and jewelry, was undoubtedly at least \$500. The bandits then proceeded to get rid of their victims by making them jump off the moving train.

According to Chief Jeffers, this was done in order to make pursuit less likely. With victims scattered along the track, with a number of miles to walk, there was little danger that the report of the holdup could reach Alliance before the bandits had had two or three hours to make their getaway. The robbery was delayed until after the stop at Angora, not only because the stickups thought it easier to get away from Alliance, but because there is a stiff grade out of Bridgeport and the victims might be able to reach assistance after they hopped off the train. Some of the victims were badly bruised by the fall from the moving train, but the bandits did not intend to kill any of them in that manner, as shown by the fact that Allison, older than the others, to wait until the train slowed down.

The nine victims walked into town together, and the assistance of the police was sought. They didn't arrive until at least two hours after the train. They were unable to give any definite description of the men who had held them up. One of the men told County Attorney Basye that he had \$90 in A. B. A. checks on his person, which the holdup men didn't take, fearing detection through them. "One of them had a gun as long as from here to my old home in Iowa," another said.

After a long search, the officers have definitely given up the chase.

## Another Complaint Is Filed Against the Rosetta Establishment

County Attorney Basye this morning filed in county court a complaint against the Rosetta rooming house, charging the proprietors with conducting a disorderly house. Hearing on the complaint was set by Judge Tash for 9 a. m. on September 29.

C. H. Rockey and family, Mrs. Ada B. Allen and son motored to Hot Springs Saturday. On the return trip they stopped over night Sunday in Chadron, returning to Alliance Monday.

## HEMINGFORD IS BEHIND ITS COMMISSIONER

### LIKES HIS EFFORTS TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR THEM.

#### Don't Want Place on the North Star Highway, But Some Other Things—Carrell's Work Reviewed.

The attitude of Hemingford in the matter of County Commissioner George Carrell is made quite plain by an article in the last issue of the Hemingford Ledger, which acts very much as though that newspaper were speaking with full authority to represent the sentiments of the whole western half of Box Butte county. The Ledger admits that Carrell may have done a few things that may not have been exactly the right thing to do, but states boldly that Hemingford is with him in his efforts to secure justice for the western half of the county in the matter of roads.

The Hemingford newspaper concludes that Alliance is afraid of the big commissioner, and intimates that the reason for the antagonism of this city is that he is independent and will not stand for dictation from anyone outside of his district. Any fear of Hemingford itself is groundless, the Ledger says, for that town has no intention of trying to get a place in the sun or on the North Star highway at the expense of Alliance. The Ledger's article was printed before recent interviews with the commissioner from that district were printed, in which Mr. Carrell stated it was his intention to do everything in his power to hurt Alliance, as well as to help his own backside, and it is possible that these ill-considered utterances, made in the heat of anger, may be toned down somewhat after the commissioner talks things over with his constituents.

The Ledger prints a record of the road work done in that district under Mr. Carrell's supervision, and gives him a good endorsement on this score. The newspaper states, without qualification, that when the time comes, Mr. Carrell will unite with the other commissioners in meeting the road through Morrill county at the county line. The whole trouble, the Hemingford newspaper concludes, is simply a lack of understanding, which should be easily adjusted. The Ledger says:

#### Says Alliance Afraid

"Alliance is decidedly afraid of the big commissioner from this district. Owing to the fact that Carrell is independent and will not take dictation from Alliance, the Alliance papers are outspoken in requesting him to resign. They even go so far as to intimate that Hemingford is asking for Carrell to quit. This is absolutely false. Party lines are not closely drawn here and there is no party strife so far as we can find out from any of the local party leaders. And while Carrell has done a few things that some of the people here think was not just the thing to do, Hemingford is behind Carrell in his effort to secure justice for this part of the county. "It is true that Hemingford is looking for something. That something has been plainly stated in previous articles on the north and south road. Hemingford is hoping some day to have the branch road running from Alliance through Hemingford to the Yellowstone park. Unlike Alliance, Hemingford has never pretended to be neutral, and stated the proposition that appeals to the people of this community. Hemingford is not asking for a place in the sun, nor even on the North Star highway, but still holds to the original plan to assist Alliance if Alliance desires that assistance asking only in return that Alliance will later assist Hemingford in securing the aforementioned road.

#### Carrell's Support Promised

"Alliance is still fearful, however, not only of Hemingford, which fear is groundless, but of the commissioner from this district. This is plainly shown in the two articles copied from the Alliance Herald. We assure Alliance they need have no fear concerning the attitude of Hemingford on the North Star route, and that Hemingford has no intention whatever of asking Carrell to resign, but will stand behind Mr. Carrell to a man so long as Hemingford feels that Mr. Carrell is doing his best for his constituents, in spite of petty mistakes to which we are all heir. We might also add that Mr. Carrell will, when the time comes, unite his efforts with those of the other commissioners to meet the road decided on from Angora to the county line.

"The year will close November 1 for road construction according to the state law and it is well to review what has been done under Commissioner Carrell's term of office so far.

"The road east of town as Mr. Hashman authorized last fall and which was partly completed then has been continued to the Chadron-Alliance highway and is about two-thirds as good as the State highway. We suggest a little more work in the low places and the widening of some of the fills. Otherwise the work is very satisfactory on this seven and one-half mile strip of road.

(Continued on page 4)

## CITY COUNCIL ABOUT AGREED ON FRANCHISE

### WILL VOTE THURSDAY EVENING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

#### City Manager Thinks Company is Entitled to Protection and City Well Safeguarded.

It would appear that happier days are in store for the Northwestern Bell Telephone company, which has for over two years conducted an exchange at Alliance, notwithstanding the fact that one city council refused to grant a franchise and a second council has been in no hurry to give the company any legal standing in the community. Half a dozen of the company's representatives have made occasional trips to Alliance, and the most of these have been futile.

During the last month or two, however, the newest city council has been disposed to go into the franchise question thoroughly, and after a series of conferences, in which every possible objection to a franchise was drawn out, an ordinance has been drawn which it is believed will receive the unanimous support of the council when it comes up for action on Thursday evening of this week.

City Manager N. A. Kemmish has made the following statement concerning the position of the council in the matter:

#### Mr. Kemmish's Statement

"For some time the members of the city council and myself have been harmoniously working on a form of franchise for the telephone company which will be to the best interests of all concerned. Unfortunately there has been considerable misunderstanding regarding the telephone company's position and just what we can do and cannot do in the matter. This has resulted in some bad feeling toward the telephone company. We believe however that there is a just and correct solution to our telephone situation which every thinking man and woman knows we should have. Every fair minded citizen wants what is just and right for the telephone company and for the citizens of Alliance. We all have different ideas depending upon our viewpoint. We always have those with us who go to extremes however and are radical in their views and beliefs. They are ready to argue and condemn the telephone company on general principles. Arguing will never settle anything. Instead we must reason together for the common good. The citizens of Alliance want good, first class telephone service and at as reasonable a cost as it can be furnished.

"The state legislature has never seen fit to give to cities the power to own or operate a municipal telephone system as we do our electric light plant. We must therefore depend upon someone else to furnish us with telephone service. The county can go into the telephone business but the city cannot do so. Since the county has no idea of doing such a thing the only thing left for the city to do is to have some private company or corporation come in here and furnish us with telephone service. This being the case we must either work with the Northwestern Bell Telephone company so that they can give us good telephone service or we must try to make them take out their poles and lines and then go out and get someone else to come in here and furnish us with telephone service. We can have two or more telephone systems if we so choose. The granting of this franchise does not give the telephone company an exclusive franchise. The city council can, at any time it sees fit, grant another franchise to another company, or they can grant as many franchises as they choose to a number of different companies. This has been tried out many times before in other cities with great loss to all. Who wants two telephone systems in a town so that you will have to have two phones and pay for two where one will do. Now before we can get anyone to come in here and spend money on a telephone system we would first have to grant them a license or franchise to use our streets and alleys. Otherwise they would not come here or spend a dollar with us. These companies must have their permits or franchises showing that they have a legal right to do business in a town or they cannot go out and sell their stocks and bonds to investors to raise money with which to build the telephone system.

"Our telephone situation here in Alliance simply simmers down to this. If we are to continue to have good telephone service we must grant some company or corporation a reasonable franchise in order to induce them to come to Alliance and give us this service. We have a telephone company here now whose franchise has expired. They are on the ground and are giving us good service. Under this condition there is only one sensible, reasonable, just and business-like thing for us to do and that is to grant to the Northwestern Bell Telephone company a reasonable franchise.

"When the citizens of Alliance voted against a franchise unfortunately they did not know the facts of the case as given above and what it means to

(Continued on Page 8)

## Mrs. Jessie Hasseltine Held to District Court On Charge of Adultery

Mrs. Jessie Hasseltine was bound over for trial at the December term of district court by County Judge Tash this morning, following a preliminary hearing in county court on a charge of adultery. The case grew out of her arrest at the Rosetta rooming house on the night of September 5, when the place was raided. Mrs. Hasseltine was found under questionable circumstances in room 17 in the company of Charles Sanford, state agent.

Sanford was not called as a witness in the case. Eugene Stilwell, night police officer, testified that on the evening in question, during the raid, he found Mrs. Hasseltine in Sanford's room. Both were more or less scantily dressed, he said. Chief Jeffers also testified that when he came in a few minutes later, the defendant was donning her clothing.

Judge Tash bound Mrs. Hasseltine over to appear for trial in district court and placed the amount of her appearance bond at \$250, which was furnished.

Mr. and Mrs. John Nation left Thursday of last week on a month's vacation trip to Pendleton, Ore., and Bellingham, Wash.

## PUT UP BARS FOR VISITORS AT OIL WELL

### NO SIGHTSEERS WELCOME AT THE LAKESIDE PROPERTY.

#### Barbed Wire Stockade Being Erected to Keep the Curious at the Proper Distance.

Visitors to the property of the Lakeside Development company, which is now drilling for oil a mile west of Lakeside, will have to be content with a long distance view of the premises from now on, unless they are gifted with exceptionally persuasive tongues or a sublime nerve. For within the past few days the derrick and machine sheds have been plastered with a number of signs, several feet in height, in startling red paint, which state that visitors are not allowed. Two or three of them are abruptly framed in this way: "Danger—Keep Out."

Not only are these signs a warning to the sightseer, but Sunday a number of the company's men were busy erecting a stockade about the derrick. This will be fitted with barbed wire, and possibly a guard or two will be at the gates.

There was no drilling being done Sunday, the drill crew awaiting the sharpening of some of the rotary drills. The big pumps were keeping the mud circulating. The drill crew is already under instructions to give out no more information concerning the depth they have reached. This is due, of course, to the fact that oil men from all over the country are watching the Lakeside proposition, and are preparing to swarm in at any time the indications begin to look favorable. Usually, however, there is considered to be little call for intense secrecy until the well is down two or three thousand feet, and oil prospects are beginning to be noticeable.

The drillers are still striking sand for the most part, although one or two strata of rock have been hit which slowed down drilling operations. It was one of these rock formations that made it necessary to lay off Sunday and sharpen the drills. The work is done in the Burlington machine shops, the only place equipped for it, in Alliance.

The drill crew is not particularly pleased with the precautions to keep out visitors. According to some of them, this is the first well they ever worked on where the public was excluded and chased off the lot. "Some of the more curious stand around and get in the way, and we have to hawl them out," one of them said, "but for the most part they don't hurt anything." The superintendent said that two men had already been hurt at the oil well, and that they didn't intend to run the risk of damage suits in addition to other expenses.

A number of cars came to the well site Sunday, but practically all of them were content to gaze from a distance. One or two stalwart souls braved the big red signs and peeked into the drill house. They escaped with their lives.

#### More Wigglestick Dope.

According to reports, a second wigglestick artist, with an entirely differing kind of rigging, has visited the site of the well, and with this machine the indications were fully as favorable as was the case when the well was originally located.

Another report says that the wigglestick men have visited the site of the Agate well, near Harrison, and report that there is absolutely no activity on the part of the magic stick. The Agate well is down nearly five thousand feet, and it is understood that drilling will cease when this depth has been reached. So far there have been no indications of oil.

## TO CIRCULATE PETITIONS FOR HASHMAN ROAD

### HOPE TO PERSUADE STATE AUTHORITIES TO CHANGE MIND.

#### Say Road Practically Completed and Should Be Kept in Condition by State Funds.

Another road squabble is forecasted in Alliance, following the action of the state highway authorities in withdrawing state aid from the Hemingford road. At present, the victory seems to be with the Alliance forces, who entered a strong protest against the designation of the route and carried the fight up to Governor McKelvia and State Engineer Johnson.

The Hemingford road is now nearing completion, the only work remaining to be done being the building of the road over a series of three hills some eleven miles northwest of the city. According to Commissioner Hashman, Division Engineer McLean, told them to go ahead with the road as outlined, and all summer they have been drawing on state highway funds to build this road. Last Saturday, following receipt of a letter from Division Engineer Gaddis, successor to Mr. McLean, which notified them that the road was not listed as a state aid project, the commissioners appropriated about \$2,000 to replace money used on the road from the state highway funds.

The question now uppermost in the minds of the commissioners and the road boosters is whether the road, as built, shall be maintained by the state or the county. There is no objection, but Commissioner Cal Hashman has announced that, if possible, he will work for state or federal aid upon it. Petitions were drawn up last Saturday and are now said to be circulating in Hemingford. They have not yet been circulated in Alliance, but there are three of them ready to be passed around.

At least two Alliance men are quoted as saying that they have received positive assurances from State Engineer Johnson that the Hemingford road, as built, will never receive state aid. It is possible, however, on backward of the road declares, to secure federal aid if certain conditions are complied with, but this is met by the answer that federal aid will never be granted over the objections of the state department.

#### Alliance's Position

The Alliance contingent wants the road to go straight west on Tenth street for a distance of eight or ten miles, instead of going two miles north at the edge of the city and then west for that distance. Mr. Hashman says he is confident that he can get at least a thousand signatures on a petition asking that the road be already mapped out, but he has agreed not to take the petition around this city until after a meeting has been held and the merits of the two routes completely thrashed out. A meeting will be held in Alliance within the next few days, at which the sentiment will be ascertained, and then a meeting with the commissioner will follow. Mr. Hashman talks most reasonably on the matter, and it is thought that he will be willing to compromise should the outlook demand it.

So far the road has cost about \$130 per mile for the twenty-two miles, and inasmuch as this sum has been expended, it is to the interest of every citizen of the county, as well as the district served by the road, that it be maintained in the best possible condition. Should there be sufficient funds available to secure state aid for this and for another main line west, the road boosters would have no objections, but it is quite doubtful if the state will approve two roads so near together.

Among the arguments advanced for the road, as located, are that it is already a mail route; that it can be completed for from \$500 to \$1,000; that it serves a most populous portion of the county; that the road can be built and maintained for less money than the other route; and that it will be used more. The chief objection is that it is not properly speaking, a country road at all, but simply a country road, as it does not lead directly into the city. With a change in the routing of the first ten miles, there would be no further objection.

## Mexican With Hidden Stiletto in Possession Now in the City Jail

Special Agent Martin of the Burlington arrested a Mexican at a late hour Saturday night, and escorted him to the city jail. The Mex had a huge stiletto, with blade carefully wrapped in cloth, concealed about his person, and his actions attracted the attention of the agent, who arrested him near the passenger station and uncovered an eight-inch blade after a search. The Mexican has been held since Saturday awaiting the filing of charges, and will probably be tried in police court on a charge of carrying concealed weapons.