

The Alliance Herald

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

BURR PRINTING CO., Owners

Entered at the postoffice at Alliance, Neb., for transportation through the mails as second class matter.

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Official newspaper of the City of Alliance; official newspaper of Box Butte County.

Owned and published by The Burr Printing Company, George L. Burr, Jr., President; Edwin M. Burr, Vice President.

THE UNPARDONABLE OFFENSE

Once in a while the English language proves inadequate to demands that are made upon it. If the theories of the death of Arthur Jones Saturday night are correct, there are no words that will express the contempt of real men and women for the driver of the car that sent him to his death. Murder is a horrible crime, and one for which there is seldom anything to be said in palliation, but the man who kills for greed, for revenge, for motives sordid or otherwise, cannot be compared with the craven who unwittingly or carelessly sends another to his death, and, seeing him dying, does not pause to offer even a kind word.

Arthur Jones died as a result of an accident. It may have been avoidable, or it may have been excusable. His truck, loaded with piping, had been stopped along the road. It was an old model car, without battery ignition, and when the car stopped, the lights were extinguished. Even had the engine been left running, the end of the car was let down and covered the rear light. The road was newly graded, and heavy with dust. It is not inconceivable that a driver, approaching from the rear at the legal rate of speed, blinded by the dust, might have been unable to see his victim until too close to turn out or otherwise avoid the accident.

It seems impossible to believe, however, that any driver could have driven an automobile into Arthur Jones with sufficient force to impale him upon the iron pipe in his truck without knowing that the man was severely, probably fatally injured. He was not dead several minutes later, when the next car came along. The driver of the car which struck him must have known that he was not dead, and, realizing this, should have given his victim every chance for life. A hospital was but a short distance away. What less could have been done for the injured man than to take him there?

The driver of the death car, judging from the appearance of the ground, did dismount to see what had happened. There were many footprints. He may have had companions who did likewise. The car was damaged by the impact—there were evidences that the radiator was punctured or disconnected. The occupant or occupants of the car tarried not. In that damaged car he hurried away, leaving a man, frightfully injured, to die alone.

It may be, happily, that the guilty driver will be found. If a thorough search and the desire of the authorities have anything to do with it, he will be found. There is a question whether the law provides an adequate punishment. In army and navy rules, cowardice is punished with the same penalty as is visited upon a traitor. Whether there is just punishment for the offense matters not—it will be good for public morale to let the guilty suffer the full weight of public scorn and contempt.

The guilty will be found, in time. No man or woman can silently bear the weight of such a burden. If there were companions, one or more of them will let it out. The world isn't large enough, as a rule, for the guilty to effectually hide. And if one of them escape, through a miracle, for a lifetime, there is yet a higher tribunal where justice will be meted out, fully and impartially.

KEEPING HISTORY STRAIGHT

Newspapers must be published with more or less regularity, and must be filled with something resembling reading matter. The Hemingford Ledger is no exception to the rule. This will go far toward explaining why, the past month or so, there has been admitted to its columns a series of road articles which have filled that newspaper to the exclusion of practically everything else. And when a newspaper that has never published an article more than half a column in length suddenly begins to print a series of articles which run from three to seven columns each, it is apparent to the average outsider that there is inspiration from somewhere, probably outside the office.

The Hemingford Ledger is obviously pulling somebody's chestnuts from the fire. This is the privilege of every editor, if he desires to do it—just as it

is the privilege of every small boy to carry water for the elephant when the circle comes to town. And, to carry the metaphor to its logical conclusion, just as the small boy usually discovers that the elephant has an enormous capacity, so does the fellow who rescues the other man's chestnuts generally discover that about all he gets out of it is a set of burned fingers.

Somebody in Hemingford is working against Alliance's interests, and the interests of the county, for some reason not yet announced. If not, why should a community which once placed three hundred names on a petition for a certain road suffer a rather abrupt change of sentiment? Another peculiar circumstance is that this decision was announced at a public meeting at Hemingford which was attended by a very few Hemingford men.

Someone has been attempting to stir up resentment in Hemingford against Alliance, for reasons best known to himself. The Ledger, until a short time ago, was not actively assisting in this plan. Apparently it has been pointed out to the Hemingford editor that the Alliance newspapers are encroaching on his field—The Herald is proud to say that it sends fully three hundred copies of each issue to subscribers out of that office—and the Ledger's pilot has had a complete change of heart. In a recent issue, he ascribes all the ill feeling on the part of Hemingford toward Alliance to the two newspapers in this city. It's plain to see where his animus lies. In one breath he says that the better element of the Alliance business men are not with this city's newspapers in their objections to Commissioner George Carrell. In the next breath he says that the Hemingford people, enraged by the attitude of the Alliance newspapers, decided to take their spite out on Alliance.

Editor Vance, or the man who puts on the records through which he speaks, is suffering from some misapprehensions, which it were kindness to remove. He, or the man who pulls the wires, has an idea that somebody in Alliance is afraid of Commissioner Carrell, and that the reason his recall is urged is because they cannot bully him or bend him to their will. This is wrong. Alliance isn't at all afraid of the Hemingford commissioner. Our citizens never have been. If they had been, he would not have been elected.

If anyone will take the trouble to look up the records of the election at which Mr. Carrell was given office, it will be found that Mr. Carrell got more votes from Alliance than he did from Hemingford. He was nominated in Hemingford, but Alliance elected him. Alliance realizes that it made a mistake. Hemingford will find the same thing, if it forgets sectional prejudice long enough to look over the situation with an open mind.

There was no kick on Carrell when he came to Alliance to sit on the board of county commissioners. Mr. Carrell has stated that he knew Alliance was against him from the start. A glance at the election returns will show that this belief was unjustified. Mr. Carrell, in announcing that he is going to fight Alliance, shows that he has a poor memory. He doesn't really know who his best friends were. He got only 200 votes in Dorsey precinct, where his home town is located, less than fifty more than his opponent received. In Alliance he was given 832 votes, 283 more than the entire balance of the county gave him, including Hemingford, for whom he is standing so strongly. Had Alliance gone against him, Mr. Carrell would never have known that he was in the race at all. It would be the part of wisdom for that gentleman to come off his high horse and tell Alliance that he didn't mean to say so much

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The Thomas Company
LLOYD C. THOMAS, Mgr.
Alliance, Neb.

while his mouth was open. Probably he didn't. Mr. Carrell and Mr. Vance seek to place the blame on the Alliance newspapers for Mr. Carrell's acts.

The first complaints against Carrell came from his own district. The Alliance newspapers paid no attention to them, although there were plenty of them. It was charged that the Hemingford commissioner had used county trucks for his private business; that he had ordered graded a private lane; that he had graded a road past his place, when there were other roads in his district that were more urgently needed. These were little things, but sufficient complaints were made to show that the people of his own district did not approve of some of his official actions.

It was not until there was direct evidence that Mr. Carrell had tried to get a personal bill allowed by the board that the Alliance newspapers began to look up his record. Mr. Carrell made an explanation. He admitted carelessness. Later it was discovered that the explanation he gave did not fit the facts. He had himself, in a session of the commissioners, moved that all bills for highway construction be sent to the county high-

way commissioner for audit. Mr. Carrell knew this was the proper routine, and he mailed the bill to the county highway commissioner. It was returned to him with a note that it was a private bill and should not be presented to the board. A month later (Mr. Carrell admits it was three weeks) the bill was again brought to Alliance, and this time Mr. Carrell did not send it to the highway commissioner, but himself took it before the board where it was allowed. The newspapers did not make the matter public until the Hemingford merchant, whose suspicions were aroused, himself brought it to Alliance to the county clerk for examination.

Then the Alliance newspapers, having nothing personal against Mr. Carrell, but believing that the taxpayers of the county should know the slack business methods of the man who was helping to spend their money, made public the facts. The whole story was not known for some time; it came out by bits; and each time a new portion was discovered, Mr. Carrell framed a story to fit the occasion. Finally he admitted the truth, but only when he was confronted with it.

The Alliance newspapers have never

charged that Carrell intended to "get away" with anything. They simply told the facts as fast as they could get them, to the public. Mr. Carrell says that he "kidded" the newspaper men along. He was kidding himself. The newspapers were doing their best to serve the public. They overlooked the gross carelessness; they did not even seek to arouse suspicion; but when Mr. Carrell lost his head and told what he intended to do to Alliance, they let him have both barrels.

It does no good for the Hemingford newspaper to seek to becloud the issue. The complaints against their commissioner were all made by Hemingford men. The dissatisfaction with his services came first from his own district. Alliance gave Carrell the biggest portion of his vote; it stood by him, until, by actions and word of mouth, he had made it plain that he was unfit to hold the office to which he was elected. When a man gets mad, he says too much—and did the Alliance newspapers desire, they could quote some things the Hemingford man said against his own fellow-citizens, and the newspaper that now supports him so staunchly—but what's the use? There is now an attempt to

make support of Carrell patriotic. It may save his office for him, because of the difficulty of getting rid of him legally, but it will never make him feared in Alliance, and it will not enable him to "put across" any of his plans to damage Alliance.

NONPAREIL

Threshing is done and now the harvest of spuds will begin.

The Nonpareil ladies club met at the home of Mrs. Albert Roth Thursday afternoon. The afternoon was spent in finishing a quilt to be given to Mrs. Ives of Alliance. Mrs. H. C. Hansen and Miss Nora Hansen were visitors. Delicious refreshments were served by the hostess. Club adjourned to meet with Mrs. Abbey, October 20.

Allen Gordon and family, Glenn Gordon and mother and Mrs. O. W. Graham and daughter visited at J. L. McIntyre's Sunday.

George Young and Glenn Osborne went to Alliance last Tuesday night to attend the show.

Mr. and Mrs. Mabley spent Monday in Alliance.

Frank Nagelschneider has about finished digging his spuds.

THE MOVABLE HEARTHSTONE.

Home nowadays is where the family auto may happen to be parked.—The Pacific Legion.

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The pendulum of human actions is swinging backward. Up until the last year the average American was a very extravagant individual. He bought lavishly because his money came easy. He knew where there was more. Today he has tightened the purse strings. The Saving Habit is being developed.

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