

# The Alliance Herald

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Official Paper of the City of Alliance

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## KU KLUX KLAN CHIEF TOPIC OF CONVERSATION

### MYSTERIOUS ORGANIZATION HOLDS MEETINGS IN CITY.

#### Local Klan Said to Have Elected Officers Wednesday Evening—Some Resentment Is Apparent.

The newly organized Ku Klux Klan has been the chief topic of conversation in Alliance since last Tuesday evening, when the principal session of members, present and prospective, was held at Reddish hall. There have been local and outside workers in the city for the past ten days or more, and strenuous efforts had been made to get certain men to attend the meeting. One Alliance business man was solicited six times in one day and received a couple of telephone calls before his "No" was accepted as final. Others did not need so much persuasion.

The meeting was not open to the public generally, although it was generally understood that those interested could gain admittance, provided they passed the rigid tests that the clan organizers prescribed. The men who had been asked to attend were in most cases told they might bring others for whom they could vouch. Over fifty men were on hand at the hall at 8 p. m.

The mystery and secrecy, commonly believed to be connected with the Klan, were preserved. There were sentinels inside and outside the door, and before any man was admitted he was questioned. It is said that all adherents of a certain religion were denied admittance.

The organizer, the Rev. Basil Newton, at present or at one time pastor of a Christian church in St. Louis, Mo., was the principal speaker at the meeting, according to reports from some of those who attended. Mr. Newton is said to be possessed of considerable oratorical powers, and to know how and when to use them. According to the reports, the speaker explained the aims of the Klan, denied that it was responsible for outrages in the south and elsewhere with which it has been charged by its enemies; defended it against attacks of various newspapers over the country, some of which are publishing so-called exposures and then launched into some exposures of his own, in which a number of things were attacked.

At the close of the address, an appeal was made for members. Preliminary application blanks, which called for information concerning the candidate for membership, were passed around, and the opportunity to sign them given. Those who did not sign were requested to leave and placed upon their honor by the speaker not to reveal the names of any person present at the meeting.

#### Many Stay for the Finish.

It was estimated by one of those present that over half of the men present remained in the room for the secret session which followed.

Another meeting was held the following evening, at which it is reported that the formal organization was completed. The head of the local organization, or king kleeagle, is reported to be in the employ of the Burlington. The attendance at the second meeting was ever larger than at the first.

It is not known how many members have been secured for the Klan to date, but strenuous effort is being made to get at least 150, which is said to be the minimum requirement for a separate Klan. Where the membership falls below that figure, it is stated that the organization is ranked as a branch.

Considerable ill feeling and resentment has been engendered on the part of many who are opposed to the formation of a Klan, and who feel they have been discriminated against. On Tuesday evening, a closed automobile was packed near the entrance to the hall, and the names of all men who attended the meeting were taken down. The names of those who left early were carefully noted, it is said.

On Wednesday evening, when word of the name recording had been passed about, it is said that several men entered and left the hall by a rear entrance to the building. The names of these men were secured and carefully filed for future reference.

A number of Alliance citizens were already members of the Klan before the organizers appeared on the scene, it is declared. These men affiliated with the Klan in Denver and several Nebraska points. It is estimated that there have been fifteen or twenty Klan members in the city for several months.

Those who profess to be acquainted with the Klan's activities say there is absolutely no need for alarm; that the organization does not sponsor violence of any kind and is in effect simply a secret lodge. On the other hand, there are a number who have been receiving reports from various sources, via the newspapers and other routes, and these say the Klan is a trouble-breeder. The mere fact that its membership is secret and that it does not make public what it intends to do, they say, leaves the way open for imagining all sorts of terrors and outrages, and this, it is charged, is exactly what the Klan desires. There is no question that a number of people are agitated over the matter in Alliance today, and it may be that an anti-Klan organization will result.

### WEATHER

Forecast for Alliance and vicinity: Fair tonight and probably Saturday; moderate temperatures.

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#### Congress Considering.

Col. William J. Simmons of Atlanta, Ga., imperial wizard, is now testifying before the rules committee of the United States house of representatives concerning the organization. Resolutions are before congress asking for an investigation of the order, and according to press dispatches, Mr. Simmons spoke favorably of them. The Klan, he told the committee, would welcome the opportunity to present a thousand witnesses.

The Ku Klux Klan, as pictured by Colonel Simmons as an organization dedicated to promotion of patriotism, brotherhood among men, charity, benevolence, and other virtues. It does not terrorize citizens, he averred.

Simmons took the stand before the committee to defend the Klan, after others had condemned it. He described its formation and growth, and denied charges that have been made before the committee and in public print. He offered documents in support of his contentions.

Simmons denied the Klan countenances lawlessness, or that members take law into their own hands. "We teach respect for the law, love of country, and a closer fellowship of service," he declared, offering copies of the ritual, constitution and other documents as proof.

A number of Alliance men who were solicited to join the organization have signified that they will have nothing to do with it until after congress definitely takes action in regard to an investigation.

## STUDENTS ARE ENTERTAINED BY THE ROTARIANS

### FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES GUESTS OF BUSINESS MEN.

#### Rev. Walter S. Rundin of Mitchell Addresses the Lower Classmen Wednesday Evening.

The members of the Alliance Rotary club entertained the boys of the freshmen and sophomore classes of the Alliance high school at a dinner held at the Palm Room at the Alliance hotel at 6:30 Wednesday evening. The club entertained the boys of the junior and senior classes at its meeting last week. The entertainments were a feature for the month of October, which is set apart in Rotary circles for educational and boys' work. Marcus Frankle is chairman of the club's entertainment group for the month, which planned the meetings.

Some sixty or seventy-five boys were present at the meeting. Following the dinner and the usual song fest, Rotarian Earl Mallory explained the aims of the club and what it hoped to accomplish in working among and with the boys. Mr. Mallory introduced the speaker for the occasion, Rev. Walter Rundin of Mitchell, Neb., pastor of the Community church at Mitchell, Neb., and well known to many Alliance men.

Mr. Rundin appealed to the boys to continue their studies and not only graduate from the high school, but keep on until they had attained university degrees. He quoted statistics showing that only one man out of 150,000 ever attained eminence without a school education; that 17 out of 150,000 were all who could expect to achieve distinction with a grade school education. A high school training increased the chances to 87 out of that number, while a university career increases the opportunity ten times, as records show that there will be 800 men with university educations in our world where only 87 men with high school training succeed.

The speaker quoted a number of other figures, covering the various professions and occupations, the result of which was to show to the boys that by remaining in school they had a vastly better chance to get on in the world. He said that he realized that about the time a boy hits the high school, he is tempted by offers of big wages in the business field, but the boy who leaves school to take a job on a wheelbarrow will be still running the wheelbarrow twenty-five or thirty years from now, or have a job no better, while the boy who stuck it out and improved his opportunities in school will be bossing the job.

County Judge Delamatter of Gering was in Alliance today. With his wife the judge has been taking a five weeks' vacation, among other places visiting Missoula, Mont. Mrs. Delamatter is a sister of Mrs. Ralls of this city.

M. E. Wyland of west of town went to Antioch Thursday to visit a brother.

Dr. E. C. Drake left Thursday for Bridgeport on professional business.

## YOUTH IS HELD TO FACE TRIAL IN DISTRICT COURT

### CHARGED WITH THEFT OF FORD CAR IN HEMINGFORD

#### Sale of Extra Tire and Rim for \$2 and Offer to Sell Auto for \$50 Leads to Arrest

James Glandon, eighteen years of age, was ordered held for trial at the December 5 term of district court by County Judge Tash this morning, following a preliminary hearing on a complaint charging him with the theft of a Ford automobile, the property of L. S. Wright, near Hemingford. The offense was alleged to have been committed on the evening of October 11, in Hemingford, some time between 6:30 and 7:30 o'clock.

According to the testimony adduced at the hearing, it was principally the lack of money that kept Glandon from leaving the country with the car. The testimony that resulted in holding him for district court was from two men to whom he had attempted to dispose of a spare casing, tube and rim, and later the car itself. The youth, when arraigned, pleaded not guilty. He was represented by Attorney H. E. Gantz, and County Attorney Basye conducted the prosecution.

Mr. Wright was the first witness called to the stand by the prosecution. He stated that on the night of October 11, with his wife he had attended services at the Lutheran church in Hemingford, coming from his home six miles north and three miles west of Hemingford. They arrived about 7:30, parked the car in front of the church and went inside. When they came out, about 9 o'clock, the car was gone. The city and county police officers at Alliance were notified. Mr. Wright stated that he had never seen the defendant before. The car had been found by police officers and taken to the Sturgeon garage, where he identified it.

Jack Stewart, a recent arrival in Alliance, gave the most damaging testimony. About 9:30 on the night of October 11, he said, shortly after he had come out of the auction sale of bankrupt stock in the old Tom Stalos location, he had come upon the defendant, who represented to him and a companion, Merle Ellis, that he wanted to sell a tire. He said he wanted to get money to buy gasoline. After some discussion Ellis agreed to buy the tire for \$2, to which price he came down from \$10, which was asked at first. He had put up one dollar of the purchase price and Ellis the other. Later in the evening the youth had driven the car to the Ellis home, First and Niobrara, and delivered the tire and received the money. He then confessed that he had stolen the car. He said at first that he had stolen it at Lincoln and later that he had taken it from Hemingford. Ellis had then returned the tire, the witness said. The next morning Glandon tried to sell him the car for \$50. He had left it in the street across from the Ellis home and Stewart notified both Chief Jeffers and Sheriff Miller that if they had a call for a stolen car, they would find it there.

Merle Ellis, brakeman, testified to practically the same facts, with the exception that he could not positively identify the defendant as the man who had sold him the tire. He said that he had no use for the tire and had agreed to buy it only because he figured it a loan instead of a sale. He thought Glandon was employed on a ranch and needed the money to buy gasoline to get home. When he found the tire and car had been stolen, he threw his purchase back into the car. He had also told the youth to take the car away. He said the reason he could not identify the man was because he had just got off a sixteen-hour run and not only was he tired, but his eyes were full of cinders.

Sheriff Miller testified that he had found the car upon information furnished by Stewart, and that he and Chief Jeffers arrested Glandon Wednesday afternoon upon a description furnished by Stewart.

The case was argued by the attorneys, following which Judge Tash held there was evidence to show that a crime had been committed and that there was probable cause to believe the defendant guilty. Bond was placed at \$500. Witnesses Stewart and Ellis gave their recognizances in the sum of \$100 each to appear at district court and give testimony.

According to young Glandon's story, he is but eighteen years of age and has neither parents nor home. He had been in Box Butte county only a few months, and had worked at the Baldwin and Charles Murphy ranches, among others.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wells and daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Johnson, arrived Thursday for a few days' visit with their son and brother, Harry E. Wells. They drove overland from Lexington, Neb., and will take in the Harvest Home festival while here.

Miss Nellie Kent was on the sick list Thursday, but is reported better today.

## SATURDAY IS FESTIVAL DAY IN ALLIANCE

### FREE ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED FOR ALL WHO COME.

#### Ford Automobile to Be Given Away By Merchants of City on Afternoon of the Big Day.

Saturday is going to be vacation day for all Box Butte county. Every man, woman and child in the county, and from outside, for that matter, is invited to be the guest of forty or more Alliance merchants for an all-day entertainment with no admission fees, no concessions such as come with carnivals; no gambling or skin games—nothing but good, wholesome fun and a whole day of it. The fun will start at 10 a. m. and will be officially at an end at 6 p. m., when the drawing for the Ford automobile that is to be given away will take place.

Music by a ten-piece band will be furnished during the day under the direction of J. P. Mann. The band will help live up the races, and after the judges have rendered decisions in the various athletic events and competitions, will give a concert. The free program will end at 6 o'clock with the drawing for the Ford, but for those who desire there will be a dance at the roof garden, the movies and shopping at the stores, which will be kept open as late as desired for the accommodations of the visitors.

A number of the merchants who are putting on the free show have arranged special bargain sales to make it worth the while of patrons to visit Alliance. Aside from the free entertainment provided, there will be an opportunity offered to make purchases, and practically every one of the merchants of the city is making special inducements on his lines of merchandise. There'll be an opportunity not only to have a good time, but to make mighty good wages if the visitors take advantage of the sales that are now going on.

#### Big Program Arranged.

A program has been arranged that will give practically every out-of-town visitor an opportunity to compete for some of the prizes. In addition to the usual races and athletic events, a prize of a sack of flour will be given to the family coming from the greatest distance to attend the celebration. A sugar cured ham goes to the largest family that makes the trip to Alliance in one car. The driver of the oldest car in the city Harvest Festival day will draw down a pair of shoes. The car with the most mileage on the speedometer entitles the driver to a new fall hat. The worst looking car gets a new inner tube. The judges for all of the contests have been selected from among the members of the T. P. A. post of this city, and Rev. Stephen J. Epler, Jack Hawes and Joe O'Connor will be judges in the above events. The judges' stand will be located at the corner of Third and Box Butte, and cars which it is desired to enter in any of these competitions will report directly to the stand, where the judges can give it the once-over and get the record straight. Decisions in these contests will be announced at 10:30 a. m.

The program for the day will begin promptly at 10 a. m., with a competition to determine which car can make the greatest distance on a pint of gasoline. This will be followed by a tug-of-war between Fords, a race for one block with a change of tire and pumping up to twenty-five pounds pressure; and a novelty or obstacle race. These events will be judged by W. G. Neimann, C. M. Looney and E. R. Harris. The races will take place between Second and Third streets on Box Butte and the prizes include a \$5 shirt, ten gallons of gasoline and a box of cigars.

#### Squaws to Chase the Pig.

The greased pig chase by Indian squaws from the Pine Ridge, which by many is considered the feature event of the program, will not be started until 11 o'clock. Bob Johnstone, R. M. Baker and Joe Chapman, as judges, will have the best opportunity to watch the fun, but hundreds of others will line the sidewalks. Several squaws have vowed to capture the pig, but the favorite for the competition is Mary Whitebelly, whose prowess is such that her backers are certain that the pig will be gracing her dinner table within a few hours after the race ends.

Mary is not a beauty, but she has a long and ancient lineage, being no less a personage than the granddaughter of Charles White Horse. It is regrettable that one of her optics is damaged, but even with this handicap she expects to win. The Indian pony race, squaw pony race, the fat men's race, and climbing the greased pole will all take place at this location between 11 a. m. and noon. The prizes include the pig, five pounds of coffee, five pounds of tobacco and other necessities and luxuries. Ten pounds of butter go to the winning fat man, and at present prices this should call forth a lot of entries and considerable perspiration.

#### Afternoon Program.

The afternoon program begins promptly at 1 p. m. on West Third street. St. Thompson, James P. Bur-

lington, Jr., and John Fine are slated for judges, and they will decide the dinners in the Ford race, one block, standing start; open race, same conditions; truck race, and open novelty races.

At 1:30, between Third and Fourth streets, Roy Strong, W. W. Marks and Tom Gee will decide the winners in the Indian foot race, the squaw foot race, the races for Indian boys and girls and school boys and girls, potato races, pitching horses, exhibition run by fire department, Indian wrestling and other entertainment.

The Pine Ridge Indians, who are planning to be in Alliance several hundred strong and hope to cop off a good share of the prizes, will stage a big Indian pow-wow in the late afternoon or evening. They have their war paint and feathers all ready, and this ought to be one of the big attractions of the day. The squaws have been grunting away at those Indian solos which are a part of the dances, and even the most rheumatic of the Indians have consented to take part.

The big feature of the day, the giving away of a Ford car, will take place some time between 5 and 6 p. m. Tickets for the car have been given away free with purchases of merchandise during the past week or ten days, and tickets will be given away all day during the festival. The rule of the drawing provides that the holder of the lucky ticket must be present at the drawing. The merchants will reserve none of the tickets themselves, and the car will go to some resident of the city or county who has purchased merchandise at one of the stores staging the festival.

Coursey & Miller, local Ford agents, have hung up two special prizes—a 30x3 casing for the largest family coming to the celebration in a Ford, and a 30x3 tube to the Ford car coming from the greatest distance.

It's going to be one large day, and the attendance is expected to break all records.

## CITY MANAGER REPORTS UPON EXPENDITURES

### COST OF CITY GOVERNMENT IS LESS THAN ESTIMATE.

#### Record for the First Five Months of the Year Shows That Considerable Money Has Been Saved.

For the five months period ending October 1st, the expenses of running the city government for this period have been under our yearly estimate, according to a statement issued by City Manager N. A. Kemmish.

In the public safety department, the police department has run close to the estimate. The fire division has run below the estimate so far and for the remainder of the year should be considerably below. In what is called the general fund, which includes the main part of the city government expenditures, there has been expended less than two-thirds of the estimate expenses for this period. This has been done notwithstanding the street grading program that has been carried on during this time. Unless something unusual should arise the record during balance of the year should be even better.

## Thomas County Sheriff Takes Four Prisoners Away From Jail Here

Nick Shriner, sheriff of Thomas county, arrived in Alliance Wednesday and took back with him in the evening four prisoners. Two of these were boys who had confessed to robbery of a Seneca store a week or so ago, and the two other prisoners were the two colored men who attacked Burlington Special Agent Short there the first of the week and were being held here on a vagrancy charge until the Thomas county officers could get down here to take them back. There are no law enforcement officials in Seneca, it is said.

## St. Agnes Academy to Stage a Bazaar at the Roof Garden Soon

A bazaar will be staged at the Roof Garden for three days, October 25, 26 and 27, for the benefit of St. Agnes academy, the proceeds to go to the building fund of the academy. There will be a number of features for the three days, including a beautiful collection of needlework made by the women of the parish, alumnae and pupils of St. Agnes. Dinner will be served each evening, there will be dancing and each admission ticket entitles the holder to one chance on a ton of coal donated by F. W. Hargarten.

Ted Fielding, proprietor of the Model Cleaners, this week makes some extensive additions and improvements to his plant, which will permit of extensive improvements to his service. A new boiler and a steam drying room are among the new facilities installed.

## SCOTTSBLUFF WANTS A ROAD TO ALLIANCE

### COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

#### Secretary Mack Reports That He Has Promise of Co-operation of the Box Butte Commissioners

The Scottsbluff chamber of commerce has taken definite steps toward securing a road between that city and Alliance. Secretary J. H. Mack of the Scottsbluff organization is said to be one of the liveliest wires that has ever been connected with that city's commercial organization, and has among other things, been making considerable effort to iron out differences that have existed between his city and neighboring cities. He had been paying especial attention to Gering, and has not overlooked Alliance.

Several weeks ago, in a letter to the Alliance chamber of commerce, Mr. Mack offered to work with this city's organization to secure a road between the two cities, but at the time his letter arrived, Alliance was engaged in keeping peace between the North Star and G-P-C highways, and nothing was definitely decided upon concerning a road to connect with the metropolis of the sugar beet country. The present road is believed to be one of the worst in the entire world, and it is probable that Alliance will co-operate with the neighboring city to improve the thoroughfare.

#### Committee Is Appointed.

The Scottsbluff Star-Herald gives the following account of the meeting: "The first meeting of the interest group meetings as planned under the program of the American City bureau for the chamber of commerce work in Scottsbluff, was held at the chamber headquarters on last Friday evening. The gathering was in the nature of good roads meeting and there were between twenty-five and thirty persons in attendance, the start being made for the working out of a definite program for this activity in the valley."

F. F. Everett was selected as chairman, and, following organization, the first topic to be taken up was the matter of a good road between this city and Alliance. After citing the need of such a highway and the benefit which result to both cities in consequence, a committee was appointed to take the preliminary work in charge, this committee consisting of M. D. Parks, A. L. Domy, D. F. Hosman, Clinton Wildy, M. C. Jones and Charles Schaefer.

"One of the first duties of this committee will be the mapping out of a road due east from this city to intersect a road running north from Bayard to Alliance. Conferences will be had with the commercial organizations of Bayard in order that cooperation may be had. Secretary Mack of the chamber reported that he had the promise of the Box Butte county commissioners that they will meet the good roads advocates half-way and see that the improved highway is continued from the county line to Alliance."

#### Grading the G-P-C Route.

From the Broadwater News is taken the following account of grading operations on the G-P-C highway in Morrill county. This is the Broadwater route. When the North Star-G-P-C struggle finally ended, the North Star route was approved as the first road to receive state aid, with a promise that the Broadwater road would be the next completed. The Broadwater boosters with the assistance of ranchers living along the road, have not been idle meanwhile. The News says: "The big county grading outfit is up near the Hickman ranch, what formerly was called the Waggoner meadow and is grading the road north and south from there. The G-P-C highway was marked out a different route, but after considering the amount of work which had been done on the old highway, it was considered advisable to complete that road grade as near as possible. The business men and the farmers in and around Broadwater are donating the oil and gas for the big machine and it is hoped that some good work will be accomplished, if the weather permits, within the next month. Commissioner Draper and Mr. Conover were up looking over the situation the first of the week and ordered the big outfit to get busy. Many places between here and Hickman's the sandy spots could be helped a big lot if they were hauled and thrown on the sand. There are not many long stretches of sand and it seems that it would be a great benefit if the farmers in that territory would do that."

County Judge Tash reports a complete dearth of applicants for marriage licenses. The last couple who applied came on September 25, and here it is October 14 and not a single couple has appeared to be made happy. There have been dull periods before, but this is the worst record since the judge assumed office.

Joe Bates, engineer at the Alliance creamery, who recently had a piece of steel removed from his eye by a magnet, is getting along nicely.