

## THE ACCIDENTAL KILLING SATURDAY

### Coroner's Jury Acquits Van Fleet--No Satisfactory Evidence Was Produced at Inquest

Incident to the killing of Akbro Brisse, the sheriff immediately telephoned the coroner, B. I. Clements, and was instructed to have a jury ready, which he did, empanelling J. G. Richey, J. W. Sage, D. B. Ebersole, Ernest Wurl, A. P. Barnes and Henry Eikenberry. The coroner had just time to catch his train and got here about 5 o'clock. At 7 o'clock the jury was shown the body of the dead man, and upon examination found a small outward wound of about three-quarters of an inch in length, just to the left of the spinal column, and some six or seven inches below the nape of the neck, this being the only wound upon the body. The jury then adjourned to the court house, where in the district court room the sitting was continued.

John Karvanek being sworn, testified: I have been working for Kunsman & Ramge; at about 2:15 there was in the back room where I was working myself, John Speck a helper, Roy Bax a delivery boy for the firm, Harry VanFleet, Albro, or Bine Brisse, and a stranger and George Rennie or Renner, or whatever it is. There was nothing going on but we were working. I was very busy, wanting to go to the slaughter house on the morning, and having to get the hologna meat trimmed. I heard Van Fleet say, "you had better go to the doctor," and he lead Brisse out, who was spitting, blood, and I thought he had the nose bleed. Cross examination said: I think the boys were good friends, but did not know that there had anything happened until they said Brisse was dead. Van Fleet, who had a knife, threw it on the bench.

Dr. Cummins testified that John S. Hall had called him, and said a man was hurt in the rear of Henry Beck's building and came at once. Hurried around to the place, found Albro Brisse wounded, bleeding profusely and gasping for breath and unconscious; had on two shirts; made examination and found no pulse, and a wound in the back which must have pierced his lungs and some blood vessel; do not know who did it. Died at about 2:21 p. m.

John Speck testified: I work for Kunsman & Ramge; at time of accident there were in the back room Karvanak, myself, Bax, VanFleet, Brisse, and a stranger; I was working; first thing I heard was some one said, "better go to the doctor," and I looked up and saw Brisse spit up a mouthful of blood and they started. Brisse's knees gave out at the corner of Beck's building, where he fell down and died. There was no quarrel or loud talking; George Rennie and Ben Hyde were in the place; Van Fleet had been there ten minutes, and Brisse and Hyde about three or four minutes, when the accident occurred. Harry VanFleet had just dropped in and was whetting a knife to help with the trimming of the hologna meat.

George Bax, jr., testified: I am delivery boy for Kunsman & Ramge; was sitting in back room this afternoon; Harry VanFleet was whetting a knife to help cut sausage meat; was not working there; lived in Omaha; did not hear any scuffling or loud talking; think boys were the best of friends. Heard Van Fleet say, "Better go to the doctor," and then went out; Brisse was spitting blood and said, "What's the matter?" At the corner of the Beck building he fell down and died.

George Rennie testified: I live in Plattsmouth and I am 21 years of age; was talking with John Hall, jr., who was sweeping off the back porch at White's store; went into the rear door, of the back room of the butcher shop; as I opened the door, saw VanFleet pull knife out of Brisse's back, and Van Fleet said, "You had better go to the doctor." They went out and I went to the other side of the room, as Brisse was spitting blood, and blood always makes me sick; John Karvanek said I had better go help, but I told him I could not, and I passed out the front way and went to Jesse Perry's barber shop in the Coates block. Some one came and called Dr. Martin; I did not hear Brisse say anything; I do not know what VanFleet done with knife; think it stuck in back about three inches; did not realize that Brisse was hurt fatally, but thought he was hurt severely.

Harry VanFleet testified: I live at 1416 O street, South Omaha, and have

lived in Plattsmouth most all my life, leaving here for South Omaha last August. I am 18 years old; formerly worked for Kunsman & Ramge, came to this town this morning (Saturday); have known Brisse for about five years; are on very friendly terms. During the afternoon I came into the back room of the butcher shop, and had been talking with the boys; took up a knife and was sharpening it on a steel for the purpose of helping trim sausage meat; was standing about four or five feet north of back door, when a scuffling was going on on the back step, and Albro Brisse came in backwards, either being pushed or stumbled across the threshold, and fell against the knife, which, with the force he was coming, drove the knife into his back, which I immediately pulled out and told him, "You had better go to the doctor," and taking him by the arm led him out the back door and towards Sixth street, but when he got to the rear of the Beck building fell and could not rise; he had been throwing up blood from the start from the shop; I asked a young man who was with Mr. Brisse to go for a doctor, and he said he did not know where any was; I left him and ran to Dr. Livingston's office; he was busy and I ran back and found a crowd and the man dead; I was then taken to the jail. There was no enmity between us, and we were good friends; the occurrence was purely an accident and something I could not help. In coming through the door Mr. Brisse, I think, was pushed by George Rennie, but it might have been by the other young man with him, but I would not be certain which.

While the jury was waiting for the coming of B. I. Hyde, they were taken to view the scene of the accident, and when they returned B. I. Hyde was sworn and testified as follows: I have been here about two weeks, and was at the Burlington freight depot, and at the suggestion of Albro Brisse we started for the ball park, where a game was to be played. Albro suggested that we go through the alley and stepped into the back door of the butchershop, Mr. Brisse going in advance of me; he had a small stick in his hand with which he struck a fat fellow a light tap, and he struck back at Bro, and they scuffled a little, when Bro stepped back and I passed through between them and went over to the other side of the room to look for a seat, and as I had gotten across the room I heard Bro say, "What are you trying to do to me," and turned around and saw a slim man throw a knife on the table and say, "You had better go to the doctor," he took hold of Mr. Brisse's arm and led him to the door; Mr. Brisse was spitting or throwing up large mouthfuls of blood; then one in the shop and more, after getting outside, the slim man said, "Come and help me take him to the doctors," and I went and helped, but when he got to the rear of the Beck building his knees gave out and he trembled, staggered and fell. The other man ran for a doctor and I ran across the street and told a man, and he ran for a doctor, who came in a minute; a crowd had gathered and blood was running from a wound in the back, and from nose and mouth. Mr. Brisse died as soon as he was examined and was taken to the undertaking rooms. I did not know anyone in the butcher shop except Mr. Brisse, but there were four or five people there; we were in there only a short time. While there Albro and the fat fellow were cutting up and laughing, but the fat fellow did not get up from where he was sitting working. After Mr. Brisse fell down in the alley, I tried to talk to him, but he could not answer, though his eyes were open and blood running out of his mouth.

This concluded the testimony and after a few moments the jury returned a verdict of accidental death and recommending the prisoner, Harry VanFleet, discharged, which was greeted with clapping of hands, it meeting with the approbation of those who had listened to the hearing.

The funeral occurred from the residence of the parents, W. F. Brisse and wife, in South park this afternoon at 2 o'clock, and was conducted by Rev. H. D. Thomas, the music being furnished by the Methodist choir, the inter-

ment being made at Oak Hill cemetery. Of his own immediate family he leaves his parents, W. F. Brisse and wife, seven brothers—Robert, Andy, George, Albine, (a twin brother) Loe, James and Frank. Three sisters—Mrs. (E. W.) Myra Crabill, Mary and Alice Marie Brisse.

This is a very sad accident and has prostrated the mother. This young man was one of good character, industrious and was loved and respected by all who knew him. He leaves a host of friends.

## APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE

### The Bellevue College Injured Worse Than at First Supposed.

The following letter was received by J. H. Salisbury this morning concerning Bellevue College and the results of the storm:

FRIENDS:— A cyclone swept through Bellevue Tuesday evening, May 12th, and only the good providence of God prevented loss of life and bodily injury. Clarke Hall, our main recitation building was seriously damaged; Lowrie Hall, one of the dormitories for girls, was unroofed and the upper story was partly demolished; Rankin Hall, the president's residence, had many windows damaged and the roof stripped of shingles. All buildings were damaged more or less. Our losses are partly covered by cyclone insurance, but the need of college is great.

We are closing a very successful year from the educational point of view. The attendance has increased from one hundred and twenty-nine last year to one hundred and ninety the present year and the outlook is very encouraging for a much larger enrollment next year. We must move forward.

May 13th was proclaimed a holiday. The students did splendid volunteer service to save property from loss by rain. Today, May 14th, the regular schedule of classes is being followed, partly in make-shift recitation rooms. We expect to finish the year without a break.

We ask your prayers and financial help, and request that you make an offering for Bellevue College, Sunday, May 17th. Please make use of pledge cards, as many will not be prepared to give cash gifts. Make pledges payable as soon as possible.

Yours Faithfully,  
GUY W. WADSWORTH.  
Any gifts to this cause may be handed to Rev. J. H. Salisbury, who will see that they are promptly forwarded to the college. It is very evident that the losses of the college are greater than at first supposed.

### W. C. T. U. Doing Good Work.

Reports come from Louisville that the W. C. T. U. are doing most excellent work in the way of caring for the tornado sufferers of that town. Besides raising \$100.00 in cash, they have gone to work and collected clothing from those who could spare such articles as are needed, and buying many articles for the destitute. Many of these noble ladies have even packed up bundles of their own clothing and carried them to the suffering. They are doing everything in their power in the way of getting homeless families settled in such places as can be had. Furnishing them bedding, furniture and eatables, and also caring for the injured. They are also engaged in looking after the wants of those injured at the clay-pits, where one child was killed, and the mother so badly injured that she will probably die. The ladies are evidently displaying a spirit of true christianity, and one that is commendable and worthy of emulation in all christian communities.

### Returns From the Coast.

The Lincoln Star says: "Mrs. Isabel Richey has returned from San Francisco where she read a poem at the presentation of the silver service to the battleship Nebraska. Mrs. Richey is enthusiastic over the trip, and left all the Nebraska party in the best of health and spirits. Mrs. Sheldon returned via another route and expects to reach Lincoln today or tomorrow."

### Westley Grassman Sick Again.

While at work Friday at the Burlington shops, J. W. Grassman had another hemorrhage of the lungs and had to be taken home and during the noon hour had another, and this afternoon was feeling very weak from the loss of blood and the effects of the hemorrhage. We hope he will soon be feeling well again.

## KEEPING THE TRAIN ON TIME

### Strenuous Effort Being Made With Burlington No. 1.

The Burlington operating officials are making a strenuous effort to make a ninety days' record for the Denver limited, No. 1., during which time they hope the train will not have been one minute late into Denver. The ninety days period will end May 20, says the Lincoln Journal. Of course the strenuous effort to keep the train on time will continue after that date, but with the coming of a big convention of democrats at Denver and a heavy travel period there is a possibility that slight delays may follow.

The flight of No. 1 west from Chicago is watched by operating men. That train is the bugaboo of train dispatchers, engine men and train men. Everywhere the road is cleared for its coming and kept clear until it passes. Foreseen causes for delay are removed if possible and everything possible is done to get it through without the loss of a minute.

An instance: When the report of destruction to railroad property on the Louisville line of the Burlington was received Tuesday evening the first thing done was to send a wrecking crew out over the line to clear the road if there were obstructions. The crew had orders to clear the track, to get the line open as soon as possible, because the Louisville line is on the path of No. 1. That train does not come via Omaha. It might be handled that way, but by handling it via Omaha would mean the loss of an hour's time, and one hour's time between Lincoln and Denver would be difficult to make up. The track was cleared and there was no loss of time.

Chicago to Denver is 1,027 miles. Ninety days without the loss of a minute's time at Denver would mean traveling a distance of 92,430 miles, or three and seven-tenths times the distance around the world, every minute of the trip on schedule time.

Railroad men claim that this record is possible because of the fact that the train is scheduled no faster than it can go under all ordinary conditions; because track conditions over the long thousand mile stretch are about as perfect as modern maintenance science can keep them, and because No. 1 must not be delayed—everyone understands that.

## OMAHA COUPLE MARRIED HERE

### Seek City of Plattsmouth to Plight Their Love and Join Their Lives.

Friday a couple came from Omaha, and with the secretiveness, characteristic of some people, awaited an opportunity to secure a license when no one was in but the attendants. They, however, in making a date with the judge for the ceremony, which occurred at three this afternoon, forgot the former caution, and allowed someone to overhear, and the secret was out. The bride says she is the daughter of a newspaper man at Omaha, and did not wish papa to know until she should tell him. But the reporter was obtuse and must have an opportunity to see the records, and they showed the granting of the license. After the ceremony was performed by the judge at three o'clock, they viewed the city, and in perfect bliss departed on the Missouri Pacific train for their home in Omaha at a little before five. The Journal, characteristic with its good wishes for the welfare of the human race, wishes them much joy in this life, and they are entitled to as much as they can get. The records show the names of the couple to be David L. Murray, age 25, and Etta A. Clark, age 22.

### Lawyer Cook for Judge.

The Malvern Leader has announced Hon. A. E. Cook of Malvern as a candidate for judge of the district court. We have heard much talk among the republicans of Glenwood today about Mr. Cook's candidacy and it appears to be received with much favor among them.—Glenwood Tribune.

Lawyer Cook is a brother of our own Dr. E. W. Cook, and has frequently visited in Plattsmouth, where he formed hosts of friends. While they are unable to aid him with their votes, they all wish him success in his aspirations, and if a good word "put in" now and then will help him, he will most certainly receive that from his friends, who know him on this side of the river.

## PIONEER TOWN HAS GREAT LOSS

### The Oldest Town in the State Hit Much Harder by the Tornado Than at First Reported

(From the World-Herald)

Historic Bellevue has become still more historic, and most unfortunately, for it has been through an awful calamity.

The old indian trading post, the landing place of the early day steamboats, the pioneer village, the long ago territorial capitol is listed now among the western tornado towns. Through the quiet place of peaceful retirement and interesting memories the whirling fury of the storm has passed, and the same tale is told as after all these disasters—death, hurts and buildings in ruins.

Next after those whom the event has put in mourning for the dead or who have suffered wounds or serious loss of property the sympathy of the people of the state, and especially of this part of the state, goes out to President Wadsworth and the entire management of the Bellevue college. That noble eminence, Elk Hill, commanding a view of one of the most magnificent landscape scenes lying below any height, and from which the town received its name, was crowned with a noble monument which the storm spared not. The tower of Clarke hall, familiar for many years to those passing within many miles from the spot, is broken on the ground and the upper story of the

building wrecked. The girl's dormitory was unroofed and the structure greatly damaged. The residence of the president did not escape harm.

The loss is heavy for a young and struggling college to sustain. It will be particularly felt in Omaha, several of whose Presbyterian pastors and laymen have always been officially connected with the institution. Bellevue college has thus been somewhat of an Omaha concern, and since the opening of the motor line a year or more ago Bellevue has been the outer edge of Omaha to the south.

President Wadsworth is quite right in considering as only a temporary misfortune the blow that has fallen on Bellevue college. Twenty-six years ago, at the time of the famous Grinnell tornado Iowa college suffered far worse than Bellevue. The only result was that its stricken plight made its supporters more generous and zealous than before. Better buildings speedily went up in place of those that were ruined and not long afterward other buildings were added. The career of the institution was not hindered but in the end advanced by the misfortune, and the college is now one of the very best in the west.

So it ought to be with Bellevue. So we may expect it will be.

### Aid for Louisville.

M. S. Briggs, the Journal reporter, started out Friday morning with a subscription paper to raise funds for the Louisville sufferers, and up to the noon hour he had raised about \$125. He done this while attending to his duties as reporter. Our business men have responded very liberally, and it is possible that at least \$200 will be contributed, as we are informed that there are one or two other papers in circulation

## SURPRISE FRIEND FRIDAY EVENING

### A Most Surprisingly and Enjoyable Event to the Guest of Honor.

Friday being anniversary of the birth of Miss Etha Crabill, her mother, Mrs. W. F. Crabill in conjunction with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Crabill, worked a surprise upon the unsuspecting young lady, which was executed to perfection. When all preparations had been made at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Crabill, which is but a short distance from the home of her mother, she was called over, and when she arrived found a crowd of people congregated there, of whom she knew none, as they were all masked. None would talk, and when the bewilderment of Miss Etha was pronounced some had to laugh and her quick ear caught the identity of the person by the laugh and was able to feel that she knew some of them, immediately in popped two colored washer women with a basket of the daily wash, as it would appear, and began presenting Miss Etha with presents of various kinds, which consumed some time. After which the masks were removed, revealing the Misses Margaret Mauzy, Zelma Tukey, Carrie Becker, Lucile Randall, Ella and Efa Kennedy, Genevieve Howard, Leona Brady, Mable Trussler, Mesdames Mae Morgan, W. L. Street, M. Howland, W. F. Crabill, J. F. Crabill and Messrs. J. W. Crabill, Jesse Brady, Robert Hays, Mr. Grant, Russell York, W. G. Brooks, M. Brown, George Becker and E. H. Wescott and wife. The evening was very pleasantly spent with music and social conversation, interspersed with games, and made more enjoyable with a delightful luncheon. The merry friends wished Miss Etha a very pleasant trip through life and many happy recurrences of the event.

### For Sale or Trade.

Tom Barnum, Will Mark and Alva Stites went out scouting for big game west of town last Saturday morning, and surrounded a coyote den that they thought ought to pan out pay dirt. Tom was detailed to make the first attack, and with the bravery of a Daniel he dove into the den so far that only his little feet remained in sight, and he soon had something within his grasp, he wasn't sure whether it was a cub's tail or a Chinaman's queue, but an examination of the "haul" proved it to be a young coyote. Seven of the little cubs were dragged out of the den and brought to town, where they were given to those who wished to raise pets, but we think the pets (?) are now for sale or trade.—Union Ledger.

## FALLS FROM HAND GAR AND INJURED

### Mariosa Paula, a Greek Section Hand, While at Work Today—is Run over.

In the shop yards, while a gang of Greek laborers, were on a hand car, going to do some work, which their occupation called, Mariosa Paula, one of the gang, fell from a moving hand car, the same running over him, the wheels passing over one of his legs between the knee and ankle, bruising it badly. The injured member was dressed by the company's physician. The wounded man is staying in his bunk near the elevator, where he is caring for his wound. He is kept company by a fellow workman by the name of Bar Joana, who is off with a fellow on his hand, which is to be lanced today.

### Has Arm Injured at Shops.

Saturday while at his accustomed duties in the Burlington blacksmith shop, George Lamphere had a peculiar accident happen which will keep him from his duties for some time. He was cutting a rivet head from the transom of a car, when one of the heads flew, striking him on the arm and cutting it very severely, the piece of steel remaining in the wound.

Mr. Lamphere pulled the piece out, and then went to the Burlington physician, who dressed the wound, it requiring some five stitches to close. Mr. Lamphere will not work for some time, and will have a very sore arm.

### Injured Hand Friday Morning.

While cleaning his gun Friday morning, F. C. Wheeler ran a splinter from the ram rod of the gun through his finger passing into one of the joints, which made it stiff and caused so much pain that he is not able to work. He had it dressed by a physician, and while he does not apprehend any serious trouble, it is giving a great deal of pain, having gotten some burnt powder in the wound.

Stops itching instantly. Cures piles, eczema, salt rheum, tetter, itch, hives, herpes, scabies—Doan's Ointment. At any drug store.