

Arlington Heights Cook County Herald Friday July 22, 1921

Team Kills F. Albrecht

Runaway Team of Mules Cause Death of Arlington Heights Man in the Hay Field

The meadow, east of the Hynes Home, Arlington Heights, was the scene of a sad accident Friday afternoon, July 15, when a team of mules ran away, causing the fatal injury, which resulted in the death of the driver, Mr. Fred Albrecht Jr. Klehm's Nurseries had a force of men harvesting the hay on the meadows, east of town. Fred Albrecht and Charles Trost had just completed loading and were starting for home. Both were on the load when Mr. Albrecht dropped one of the lines. He got into the wagon tongue to pick up the line; the mules took fright, rushed ahead, turning into Miner Street. Mr. Albrecht was thrown under their feet and the load passed over his prostrate body. Trost leaped from the load just before it was spilled off. Several men came immediately and it was once patent to those who has experience that the unfortunate man had but a brief time to live. He had a long gash on one of his temples, no doubt cut by one of the mules' feet. A workman had an auto near and Mr. Albrecht was at once lifted tenderly as possible and hurried to the office of Dr. Best. Several ribs were crushed and one of these penetrating the lungs, caused internal injuries, beyond human aid. Mrs. Albrecht was at once brought to her husband's side, and in less than 45 minutes from the time of the accident, he breathed his last. He did not recover consciousness. As an eye witness, I was impressed by the readiness to do and prompt action of those working with the injured man. The heat was severe. Yet, even Mr. Trost, who must have been severely shaken by his leap from the load, ran for water in the hope of finding a telephone, others ran and gathered the men together. All were white with shock at the sadness of it all. It was sad, a terrible affair – and the twice bereaved widow, so recently parting from her mother, has the heartfelt sympathy of everyone.

The meadow was heavy with fragrance
The bird notes were stilled for a space
Where the burning red wild field lilies
Hide in grasses and Queen Ann's lace

The daises and brown-eyed Susan's
And corn flowers daintily blue
In the ardent July sunshine
Drooped and faded as mortals do.

The meadow was heavy with fragrance
Where tired men tumbled the hay
The jest, the oath and the laughter
Were hushed by a shock that day

A dread swept over the meadow
And bird songs were stifled for a space

For the dread that clutched at a comrade
Drove color and smiles from each face

The meadow was veiled by a shadow
The songbirds, the laughter, the jest
Were silenced in surges of sorrow
For the woman who loved him the best

O! The hearts of men are so kindly
Tho their best impulses unspoken be
And from these for the widow and orphan
Flowed such prayers and such deep sympathy

Fred Albrecht, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Albrecht was born October 10, 1883 in Schaumburg. He went to Christian day school here and was confirmed April 11, 1897, by Rev. Ed Roeder. He married Mathilda Glade April 4, 1915. Fred worked on his farm in Palatine until taken sick, when he moved to Arlington Heights and regained his health, intending to go back to farming. The funeral was held Monday from St. Peter's Lutheran church, Rev. Noack officiating. He leaves to mourn his death, his widow, son, parents, father-in-law, 2 brothers and 2 sisters.