

HISTORY QUESTION OF THE MONTH

During an August night in 1940, Alma W. Farnsworth of Cottonwood Heights was faced with a very frightening experience that threatened his livelihood. What happened that night?

ANSWER

At about 9:00 p.m. on an August evening, witnesses said a lightning bolt struck and flames whipped by a firm wind flared up almost as rapidly as the bolt had come. The lightning struck near Alma W. Farnsworth's fox farm, located off of 2700 East South of today's Banbury Road. The fire which then resulted, threatened the farm and burned over 10 acres of sagebrush and scrub oak before firemen from station No. 1 in Murray could bring it under control. The firemen were aided in subduing the flames by a light rainfall that had happened at just the right time. Alma Farnsworth had moved his fox farm from Salt Lake to Butlerville about 1934. He had a large fox farm that employed two men.

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