

Witnesses Say Crewmen Drank Beer Prior To Ill-Fated Train Journey

MISSOULA, Mont. (UPI)—Five witnesses testified Wednesday the engineer and fireman of the Northern Pacific's North Coast Limited frequented a series of taverns before boarding the passenger train which derailed north of here.

The five were among 13 witnesses who appeared at the opening day of an Interstate Commerce Commission hearing into the wreck of the deluxe passenger train at high speed. It killed a child and injured more than 200 persons.

Mrs. Gayle White, a 22-year-old ranch wife, said she talked with engineer Eldon Lynn of Missoula

at a Hot Springs bar. She said his speech was slurred, his voice was thick and he staggered when he walked.

Mrs. White said she advised Lynn to "go home and sober up." She quoted him as replying, "We don't have to steer it (the train)—just push the buttons. I could do it in my sleep."

On cross examination by Lynn's lawyer, Mrs. White admitted she had consumed three drinks of whisky at the time she met Lynn.

Another witness, Sanders County Deputy Sheriff Richard J. Cole, said he had known Lynn three years and that the engineer had "a reputation for being a consistent drinker. He said Lynn showed signs of drinking the night before the wreck."

Lynn and fireman Jerry Haines of Missoula boarded the train at Paradise, Mont., about 60 miles west of Missoula. The train wrecked on a mountain grade about 14 miles from Missoula.

Charlotte Herminson, a Paradise bartender, said she served Lynn and Haines two rounds of beer. She said Haines bought a six-pack of beer and took it with him from the bar.

Rebuttal witnesses called by Haines' attorney, Jay Kurtz, included Mrs. Lander Brass, Haines' sister-in-law, who testified she doubted Lynn and Haines had been drinking heavily.

Earlier, the conductor of the ill-fated passenger train, Fred L. O'Brien, testified that as far as he could tell no running air-brake

test of the train was made before it started down the hill.

O'Brien said the train seemed to be going faster than normal before it started the descent. However, he said he made no attempt to pull the emergency brake cord because "I didn't think there was an emergency."

Probation Violators Sentenced To Jail

The Douglas County Circuit Court Wednesday revoked probation and imposed jail sentences on Leland Grady Rhodes, 23, of McCool, Miss., and Edward D. Richardson, 22, of Inkom, Idaho.

Orders issued by Judge Charles S. Woodrich indicated the defendants violated terms of their probation.

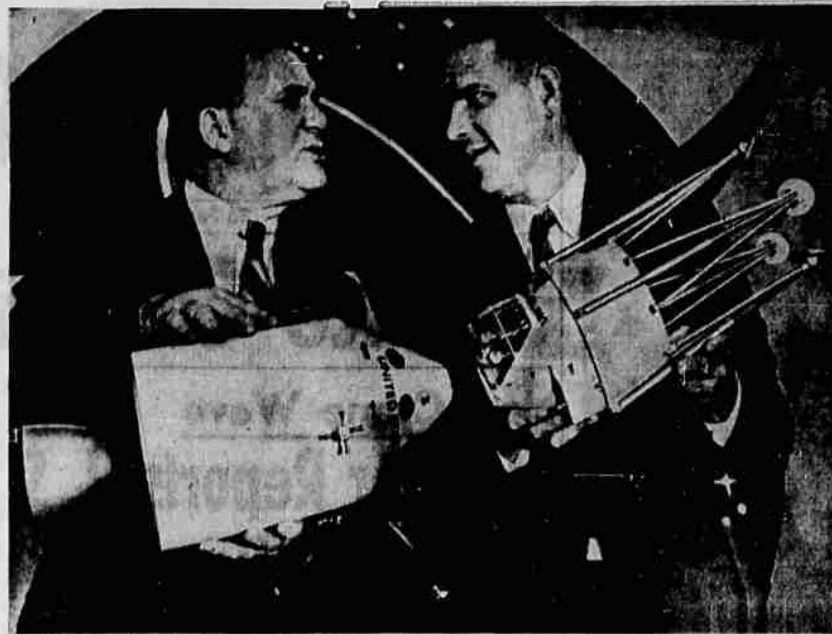
Rhodes will begin serving six months in the Douglas County jail but was given credit for 120 days spent in jail up to April 23, leaving 60 days to be served. The sentence stemmed from the defendant's conviction on a charge of vagrancy.

The order indicated Rhodes violated parole by absconding from probation supervisor and has been charged with furnishing liquor to minors.

Richardson was ordered to begin serving a one-year term in the county jail, less 35 days already served. Richardson's case stems from a conviction Feb. 22, 1961, on a charge of drawing a check with insufficient funds. An order by Judge Woodrich revoking probation states the defendant absconded from probation supervision, has not conducted himself as a good citizen and has passed numerous no account checks at Pocatello, Idaho.

On a motion by the district attorney, a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon against Peter Oluf Peterson, 22, of West Lake, was dismissed. The court order dismissing the case stated it appeared the defendant had pleaded guilty to another crime involving the same circumstances. Peterson this week pleaded guilty and was sentenced in connection with an assault and battery charge.

A charge of non-support against Delbert Duane Foster, 38, of Rogue River, was dismissed on the district attorney's motion. The court order stated it appeared the defendant is now employed and making regular support payments.



MODEL FOR MOON FLIGHT—National Aeronautics and Space Administration announced Wednesday it hopes to send two men on a four-day moon exploration expedition months ahead of announced schedules. It plans to do this by means of a special lunar ferry operating from a mother ship launched from earth into orbit around the moon. Two astronauts will land on the moon in the excursion vehicle while a third remains in lunar orbit in the command service vehicle. Here James Webb, NASA director, left, holds a model of the mother ship. Dr. Joseph Shea, NASA office of manned space flight, holds a model of the excursion vehicle. (UPI Telephoto).

Child's Antics Hamper Police

An investigation by Roseburg police of a break and entry in a dwelling hit a slight snag caused by a toddler.

Police were alerted at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday by Elliott Moteschenbacher, 491 NE Sterling Ave., Roseburg of a window pried open in the home of J. P. Moteschenbacher, 588 NE Winchester St. The matter was away from his home.

The complainant's wife discovered a window on the north side of the house had been pried open with a tire iron found lying on a windowsill. The window was open about 16 inches.

Police investigating the incident found they could take no latent fingerprints from the tire iron.

As the report from officers said, when they got there the complainant's youngest daughter was busily biting on one end of the iron. There was no vandalism or anything missing.

Assault Charge Nets 60-Day Term, Fine

Lester Cecil Rountree, 61, of 414 NE Winchester, was sentenced to 60 days in jail and fined \$100 and \$5 costs after pleading guilty in District Court Wednesday to a charge of assault and battery.

The jail sentence was suspended for one year on condition the defendant abstain from using intoxicating liquor.

The charge stemmed from a complaint by his wife, Parlee Ova Rountree, on July 8. He pleaded innocent and asked for a trial at his hearing. Rountree changed his plea to that of guilty upon appearing in court Wednesday.

NASA Plans Early Lunar Expedition

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The National Space Agency hopes to send two men on a four-day tour of the moon months ahead of schedule with a special lunar ferry.

The National Space and Aeronautics Administration announced Wednesday it plans to send the lunar expedition out with a ferry that would shuttle it to the moon after a mother ship, launched directly from earth, had taken it into lunar orbit.

Original plans called for landing three men on the moon before 1970. But NASA said the two-man plan promises "success some months earlier" with a saving of 10 to 15 per cent over the cost of the three-man plan. The cost was originally estimated at between \$20 and \$40 billion.

Guards Return, Find Car Looted

WALTHAM, Mass. (UPI)—An armored car was looted of about \$63,000 within 30 minutes of a day while the guards, both off-duty policemen, were inside an industrial firm cashing employees checks.

Police said the bullet-proof vehicle owned by the Armored Banking Service of Lynn was opened with a key.

Traffic Violations Net 2-Day Sentence, Fines

Leo Leonard Miller, 24, of 1760 SE Main St., Roseburg, was sentenced to two days in the city jail and given a total of \$95 in fines and costs for traffic violations Wednesday in Municipal Court.

He was fined \$15 and \$5 costs for violation of the basic rule and \$75 and \$5 costs for driving while his operator's license was suspended. He also was given the jail sentence for the latter violation.

Bert Edwards

Bert Edwards, of 510 Mont St., Canyonville, died at his home Wednesday night.

The body has been taken to Ganz Mortuary in Myrtle Creek. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Albany Fires Investigated

ALBANY (UPI)—Authorities today were investigating three separate apartment fires which broke out in a five-hour period here Wednesday afternoon.

Albany Fire Chief Donald Hayne said arson was suspected. No persons were injured in the blazes, which occurred in the downtown section of the city.

Blast Damages Mill

A blast which apparently carried a little too much of a dynamite charge reportedly caused minor damage to a roof in the "dry end" area of the U. S. Plywood operation on NE Diamond Lake Blvd.

The charge was set off in a planned blast in some quarrying work.

Myrtle Creek School Board Picks 4-Year High Program

Lee Winetrot was sworn in as a new member of the Myrtle Creek School Board at Wednesday night's meeting at the school and received an appointment to serve on a county-wide committee for junior colleges, reports correspondent Lorraine Birenbaum.

Appointed to serve as a lay member of the committee was Robert King. School boards throughout the county have been asked to furnish one lay and board member each to serve, Mrs. Birenbaum said.

A report was given on the reorganization of the Canyonville, Days Creek and Myrtle Creek districts still under consideration following the withdrawal of Riddle from the proposed plan. A special steering committee met recently to give further consideration to the matter with the result that a meeting has been set up for July 25 at Tri-City. Mrs. Birenbaum reports. Representatives from the county school office will be in attendance.

Decision by the Myrtle Creek board to have an 8-4 plan will mean that the Myrtle Creek district will have only to consider the building of a new high school, it was reported.

A telephone request by Vern Lively to hold a non-partisan political meeting in either the Myrtle Creek gym or the Tri-City school multipurpose room Sept. 28 was referred to the August meeting to which Lively was requested to attend.

Supt. Al Need reported a full faculty for next fall except for a remedial teacher in the high school.

Routine business occupied the remainder of the session.

Funeral services for Ethel Springstead Olson, 74, a former Roseburg resident, will be held Saturday at Long & Shukle Memorial Chapel.

Mrs. Olson died Wednesday in Portland. She was born at Fairfield, Ohio, Feb. 22, 1888, and moved to Roseburg in 1926. From Roseburg, Mrs. Olson moved to Springfield in 1954 and to Portland in 1957.

She is survived by three daughters, Wilma Rumbaugh, New London, Ohio; Mrs. Angie Van Noy, Springfield; and Lorrena Hawkins, Santa Barbara, Calif.; three sons, Perry O., Joseph and William, all of Portland; 23 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Captain Leonard Blix of the Salvation Army will officiate at the 2 p.m. services Saturday. Interment will follow in the Roseburg Memorial Gardens.

Friends may call after 3 p.m. Friday until time of the services.

Local Guardsman Set For Alaska Training

Spec. 4 Ted Kruysman of the Roseburg National Guard unit leaves Friday on a trip which will take him to Alaska for an eight-day training exercise.

He is a member of a reinforced rifle company selected from National Guard units in Oregon and Washington, which will leave from Camp Murray, Wash., by air and land for Elmendorf Air Force Base near Anchorage.

The exercise will include three days of mountain techniques. The 1st Battle Group of the Alaska-based 23rd Infantry will assist in training the special company, which will return to Camp Murray July 23.

Kruysman will stop in Portland to pick up some equipment en route.

Ethel Olson

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Winston Man Faces Two Police Charges

A 25-year-old Winston man pleaded innocent in Douglas County District Court Wednesday to three complaints charging violation of Oregon trucking regulations and also to a charge of vagrancy.

Fred Edward Dickinson is charged in complaints brought by the Douglas County Sheriff's Department. The cases were set for court trial (without jury) on July 17 before District Judge Gerald R. Hayes.

In connection with the vagrancy charge, a sheriff's complaint states the defendant on July 6 conducted himself in a "violent and disorderly manner" and used "abusive, obscene and profane language in a public place."

The offense reportedly occurred on County Rd. 122 near Lookingglass in connection with the defendant's arrest for trucking violations. According to the sheriff's office, the trucking complaints stem from the defendant's hauling of logs.

Dickinson received citations for overload, overweight and no truck license. Officers said the defendant also faces a Douglas County warrant on a complaint charging an insufficient hinder chain.

Youth Faces Liquor Count

Ronald Harrison Barr, 19, of DuBois, Pa., was scheduled to be arraigned in Roseburg Municipal Court today on a charge of illegal possession of intoxicating liquor.

Roseburg police arrested Barr Wednesday at 11 p.m. in the 700 block of Rose St., behind the state liquor store.

They had received a complaint that some persons were seen behind the store. Upon investigation they found Barr, a 16-year-old boy and another youth.

Police said the youths had some beer bottles with them. They were told the beer was purchased from a tavern.

The 16-year-old was turned over to county juvenile authorities. The other youth was not detained.

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