

Ted Neimela Shot After Brawl, Thur.

Theofolus (Ted) Niemela, resident of this area since last fall, and planerman at Swan's mill, came from town last Wednesday night, drunk, and gave Bernice Olive Fuller, his common-law wife, such a beating that she finally shot him, about five a. m. Thursday, as he slept. He died at 7:00 p. m. after having been taken to the Crescent City hospital by Bob Swan, employer.

Came To Swan Home

According to testimony at the inquest, Friday evening, Robert Swan, for whom Niemela worked, told of how Mrs. Fuller came to his home early that morning and told him that she had shot Ted. Mr. Swan notified Dr. A. O. Schmitt, who went with him to the shack, near the planing mill, and that the two loaded him into Mr. Swan's car, to rush to the hospital.

People who helped with the aid work told the Pilot that the place was a scene of worst filth they had ever seen, that the house looked as if it had never been given a cleaning.

According to her own statement, Bernice Fuller said she managed, after hours of terrific abuses, affected an escape and went to the Jockens place about 4 a. m. seeking to stay the remainder of the night. Refused this permission, she returned to the shack, picked up a single-shot .22 calibre rifle and shot Ted as he slept, stating she was standing at the door while doing the act.

Going to Swan's home, she then asked that the sheriff be notified. She signed a confession, and was given an examination by a physician, to bear out testimony of the beating she had undergone. She was held under bail set at \$2000, which she was un-

able to raise, so was lodged in the Coquille jail.

The victim and his slayer arrived in this vicinity late last summer or early fall, from Gold Beach. They originally came to the county from the Astoria district. Few knew anything about them until the tragedy, when it camoued out that their was a common-law marriage.

When they gained employment with Mr. Swan, they built a small shack near the mill, off the highway, and took up residence there. Both were said to have been regular and quite heavy drinkers.

The day of the shooting, according to her testimony, he had consumed two bottles of whiskey in addition to some beer. She did not accompany him to town Wednesday, she told the coroner's jury, but had remained home in bed. When he arrived about 10 p. m. she said he became infuriated because there wasn't a hot meal awaiting him.

W. L. Crissey Was Honored By Group

At the annual meeting of "Save the Myrtlewoods Inc" at Portland March 1, W. L. Crissey of Brookings was re-elected honorary vice-president to represent Curry County. For Douglas and Coos counties, Vernon V. Harpham and Judge Louis Felsheim were similarly elected.

The meeting passed a resolution petitioning the timber companies in the myrtle county to leave uncut and undamaged in the course of their logging operations, groves of virgin myrtle that might ultimately make park or picnic areas, even if they do not want to sell such areas for recreational reservations now.

The highway commission was complimented on the wayside reservations containing the old-growth myrtle they have preserved, particularly those along

the Umpqua highway, west of Scottsburg and at Powers Jct.

The counties were urged to acquire and administer as county parks any old-growth myrtle groves that would make good picnic areas and attract tourists there.

At the meeting, a bronze tablet, 20x30 inches in size, to be erected soon on the Alfred Loeb State Forest Park, seven miles up the Chetco from Brookings, was displayed.

Other officers elected were: Thornton T. Munger, president; A. L. Grenewalt and Herman Boyer, first and second vice-presidents; Milton Rice, treasurer; Mrs. Theo Adams and Mrs. Martha Darcy, corresponding and recording secretaries and as trustees, Hopkin Jenkins, Arthur Kirkham and Mrs. Walter Wilhelm.

Portland Youths Escape Captors Here, Wednesday

Leota Kuehl, 16, and brother, Wilbur, 14, of Portland, escaped from their captors here, last Wednesday, long enough to phone their parents at Portland, from where they had been taken for "a ride" by a "friend" driving a "rental car."

Sheriff R. G. Sabin came to Brookings and from here put the two on the bus, headed for their home.

While Sheriff Sabin was unable to supply the Pilot with any amount of details, he did say that some friend of the family offered the children a ride, to the knowledge of their parents, and drove, first to Weed, Calif., to Eureka, and later here, where the pair escaped.

The youth claimed they were not mistreated at any time, but had been away from home several days.

Extension Unit Sets Meeting Here For Wed'day, Mar. 16

"Family Business and the Law" will be the subject for discussion at the Extension Unit meeting, set for Wednesday, March 16 at 1:30 p. m. Buying and selling of property, deeds, mortgages, notes will be discussed, as well as wills, community property, taxes and other legal matters. These will also be illustrated by series of slides.

Every homemaker should have a fundamental knowledge of laws pertaining to home ownership and family problems, says Mrs. Aldene Aho, county home demonstration agent.

In addition to the aforementioned subjects, slides will be shown of Curry county 4-H club and extension unit activities.

If there are sufficient requests from unit members attending this meeting, pertaining to law and legal matters, district meetings will be scheduled to clarify all questions unanswered. A lawyer will be invited to the district meeting.

"BAZAAR"

American Legion Auxiliary announces its forthcoming bazaar, March 19, 2 to 5 p. m. at Greyhound bus depot. There will be offered for your pleasure, home-made pies, cakes and candy, as well as hand-made items that'll delight you, either for yourself or for shower or birthday gifts. Prices reasonable. Come in and make a selection. adv



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