



THE STAYTON MAIL



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ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING OF D. C. DAVIS

The following report of the death of D. C. Davis, our former townsman and head of the Commercial Department of our High School for three years is taken from the Central Oregon Enterprise, of Prineville, Oregon. The news of his death has cast a shadow of gloom over the entire community and especially among the High School students of Stayton.

This community was shocked by the news of one of the most tragic accidents that has occurred in this vicinity in a long time, when Professor D. C. Davis was shot and killed by the accidental discharge of his own gun while duck hunting on what is known as "South Lake" about seven miles west of Prineville and just across the road from the Houston Ranch.

During the enforced closing of the schools on account of the influenza epidemic, a number of the High School teachers have been in the habit of going to the lakes to hunt ducks. Among the most enthusiastic of these has been Prineville Evans and Professor Davis, the latter was in charge of the High School Commercial Department. Tuesday afternoon they left town for Professor Evans' ranch near Redmond and on the way back they stopped at the lake to hunt. Leaving the automobile along the road they entered a boat and concealed themselves among the tulies awaiting the flight of the ducks. Professor Evans was seated in the center of the boat and facing toward the rear. Professor Davis was in the bow and facing in the opposite direction.

Professor Davis noticed a flock of ducks coming in his direction and called the attention of Evans to the fact at the same time Davis stood up in the boat and fired at the ducks. The recoil of the gun caused him to lose his balance and fall into the lake. Professor Evans had dropped his gun in an effort to save himself from falling from the boat and hearing a gun explode, supposed it was his gun. Noticing blood upon the water he knew that Davis was injured and immediately assisted him back to the boat and started at once for the shore with the injured man. Professor Davis died before reaching it and without having spoken.

Professor Evans is prostrated with grief as he and Professor Davis were the closest of friends and until late Wednesday he supposed it was his gun which had caused the fatal accident. As there were a number of circumstances which do not seem to justify this conclusion, such as the fact that the charge had entered the breast of Professor Davis, severing the pulmonary artery while Davis apparently had his back toward Evans when the explosion was heard. However the explanation was apparent when the searching party brought the gun to the surface which the injured man had dropped when he fell from the boat. It was then evident that the gun had been discharged in the fall and while about seven inches of the barrel was immersed in the water. This caused the barrel to burst at a point just opposite the wound in the breast of the deceased and where he had apparently been holding it in his effort to keep it from entering the water. Strength is given to this conclusion from the fact that the wound was of such nature as a scattered charge coming from a broken gun barrel would make.

The body was taken to the house of Mr. Thomas Houston where the coroner's jury met and rendered the verdict that Professor Davis had come to his death from an accidental gunshot wound and exonerating Professor Evans from all blame. After the finding of the gun the coroner and county attorney held a consultation verifying the conclusion that he was killed by the explosion of his own gun.

Professor Davis was a graduate of O. A. C. and came to this community from Stayton, Marion

George Downing Goes Over The Top in France

W. H. Downing was in town Monday from Sublimity and said he had a letter from one of the officers that was in the same company with his son George in France. The officer had been wounded and was sent back here to Camp Humphrey, Va., August 15th. George asked the officer to write to Mr. Downing as soon as he was able and last week Mr. Downing received the letter in which he says that George has seen some hard fighting in the trenches. Their company was on the firing line for 53 days, day and night, with very little sleep and about the same on the ration question. Several of their officers and privates were killed and the ordeal was a hard one for George. The officer reports George in fine health and says that he is a man all through.

A letter from George to Mr. Downing this week says that his company was just in off a big drive and that they had captured a large number of Germans and would have captured a lot more only our boys could not run fast enough to get them.

At Ease!! At Ease!!!

Grow Loganberries; they add value to your land and are profitable. The Pheasants Northwest Products Company of Salem will buy all you grow. 46-47

WOMAN LIES MAN JUMPS

One of our exchanges has the following report of a court case of a recent date: A policeman arrested a man whom he saw jump from a fourth story window. When brought before the court, the judge said to him, "No doubt you were trying to commit suicide," but the man replied that this was not the case.

The judge asked, "Why then did you jump from the window?" The reply was, "Some woman lied to me."

"Why, how is that?" said the judge.

"Well," replied the man, "She said her husband was in California."

county, at the opening of the High School to take charge of the Commercial and Musical departments. He was very enthusiastic and efficient in his work and not only was he popular among the pupils and the members of the faculty but was well liked by the entire community. He gave his services freely and gladly on all public occasions. In all patriotic demonstrations he was in the forefront leading his assistance toward making the occasion a success. His musical ability was above the average and under his leadership the students in his department were making rapid and efficient advancement. He had reorganized the band and orchestra and with his guidance and instruction the students in these departments were becoming very efficient.

The entire community feels keenly the loss of one who in the short time he was here has endeared himself to all. And a wave of sympathy goes out to the stricken family.

The parents of Professor Davis were notified of the unfortunate accident by wire and his mother arrived in town Wednesday evening. The remains will be taken to Corvallis accompanied by his mother, wife and child, where interment will be made.

Funeral services were held at 2 o'clock today.

Come Home Walter, An Quit Your Kiddin'

(Bruce Deums, late Republican primary candidate, in his La Grande Observer.)

The Observer has often times pointed out the dangers of an Eastern Oregon man running for office in this, our great state of Oregon. Yet, even in the face of our warning, Walter M. Bierce took a whirl at the game and ran for governor.

It was a cinch in our mind that Dr. Withycombe would prance around Walter for a while and then strike that "running walk" which is characteristic of Willamette valley folk, distancing our Walter when the final vote was in.

That is about what happened, except that a few impediments were thrown in Walter's way, such as Sam Jackson's disloyalty, and the usual state central committee mistakes.

Walter also had a bundle to carry this time that, in the very nature of things, would defeat any candidate for governor. That bundle was Oswald West. He was a millstone around Walter's neck. Then came the epidemic over Oregon just as Walter was all tuned up and ready to put on the "sub stuff." Dr. Bacon's state board of health would not let Walter sneeze, much less let him make one of his tear-producing, back-shivering orations.

The troubles kept coming. President Wilson, through bone-headed political advisers, pulled his "political proclamation" about the time he found out he could not make speeches. That twisted the old Democratic donkey's tail as it had never been before twisted, causing the old beast to begin backing up hill.

All the above mentioned things, and more, happened to Walter's campaign, and it must be said that for a campaign with the muffer on, Walter did mighty well.

But, Walter, come home. Learn to be content playing with your playmates east of the mountains. Haven't you, Walter, learned by this time that all who live east of Hood River are adopted children, and surely as an adopted child you don't expect to receive a clean napkin and the large piece of cake Mother Oregon's very ownest own Willamette valley children receive.

You, Walter, are a child of the big domain; you, like Bob Stanfield and others were born to produce, to feed the hungry, to increase the Oregon wealth, to pay, pay liberally into the state treasury—yes, you chaps who operate on a big scale—such men as yourself, Stanfield, Playle, Ledbetter, Hunter, Miles Lee, Trowbridge and Pleas Brown—you are destined to receive favorable mention in Oregon newspapers, but don't any of you dare to assume that you should serve the state in a public manner.

It cannot be. Big, broad, glorious Eastern Oregon was destined to produce sheep, cattle, wheat and lumber—destined to produce men who make money—but, Walter, Eastern Oregon was never intended to produce governors or senators.

Come home, Walter, come home and quit kidding yourself with this statesmanship stuff, for you live east of the Cascades.

Dr. James D. Plamondon, who for several months has been staff physician at the Oregon State Hospital for the Insane, has been made assistant to Dr. W. D. McNary, superintendent of the Eastern Oregon Hospital for the Insane at Pendleton and began his duties there last Sunday.

Justice Conrad P. Olson of the supreme court has been ill the past week, but is improving.

One hundred and twenty-five cases of Spanish influenza and seven deaths have been reported at the penitentiary during the epidemic. Most of the cases have been of light form, the fatalities resulting generally from complications of the influenza with other chronic ailments of the victims.

L. T. Hennes, of Gates, was operated on by Dr. Beauchamp, at the Salem Hospital last Friday for hernia. The patient is getting along nicely.

Don't Be Downhearted If Label Has't Come

If you haven't received a Christmas parcel label from your son or brother in the American expeditionary forces in France, don't feel downhearted. Just wait until November 21 and then if the sticker still has not arrived the Red Cross will grant permission to all those who are entitled to the privilege to send a box across the Atlantic. This permit will be in the form of a pledge not to use the actual label should it arrive late.

Two rules limit this order—no emergency labels may be given out until after November 21 and no one may ship a package that does not conform with the regulations concerning shipment already in force.

Those wishing to take advantage of this privilege may do so by making application at Stayton's Christmas Parcel Station for a permit. Remember a permit can be issued only to next of kin and only one carton may be sent to that particular boy over seas.

A permit may also be issued to next of kin who wish to send a carton to a Red Cross nurse or any person employed in any kind of war relief, such as Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., Knights of Columbus and all organizations doing a similar work.

Anyone desiring information on this subject may call at Starr's store, where a Red Cross representative will be glad to answer any questions.

Date for mailing cartons has been extended to Nov. 30th.

The armistice was signed correctly no doubt, But say, where was "Gott" and what was he about?

The question whether the Stayton Electric Light Company is entitled to a raise in rates was argued pro and con before the members of the Public Service Commission and the city council at the city hall on Monday of this week.

A number of our citizens were present and gave evidence for and against the movement. Some of them went so far as to say that if the present price was raised they would not use the light. The final outcome of the meeting was that the company would be allowed to increase their rates after they had rendered better service, which seemed to meet with the approval of the majority of the citizens.

Any more petitions to be presented?

What holds more than a bottle of booze? Pull the cork and out pops a man with more fight in him than was in the German army of 1914. Close at his heels comes another rich beyond avarice. Presto change, another pops up cross as a sawbuck and jealous of the family cat. In contrast here comes the sweet young thing who tells everyone of his love affairs and spills the beans generally. And so it goes ad infinitum ad nauseum. Nothing like booze for transformation, transfiguration and "transit in Venors." Why, it can change a crow into a canary bird. Make a spendthrift out of a tight wad. Start a deaf mute to singing "Kiss me again," and a grandpa to chasing fresh calico and—well why extend the list? Great is booze.

Any old kind. No matter what, White mule, bitters, they all have got

Extracting power that makes a sot Like a squeezed lemon gone to rot.

Electric Plant Has Costly Eire Sunday

Sunday about noon fire was discovered in the generator at the Stayton Electric Plant and before the blaze was extinguished the plant was put out of commission. As a result Stayton has been without electric light since. Manager Taylor went to Portland Monday to get another generator and hopes to have the lights in running order soon.

Just how bad the generator was damaged cannot be learned. The fire is thought to have been caused by a short circuit on the inside.

Every available oil lamp and gasoline torch has been brought into use and Stayton people have been having a hard time to provide light suitable to carry on their business, especially in the stores and offices. The electric light will be welcomed when it again appears.

Albert Warren Appointed Corporal

Word comes from Salem that Albert Warren, son of Rev. W. J. Warren, who is attending school at Salem, has been appointed Corporal. Albert's many friends here will be glad to hear of his appointment.

With the breaking up of the principal European monarchies these statistics may be worthy of note. Russia has 78 governments, 21 provinces and 2 circuits. Total area 9,000,000 sq. m. According to Buel the first government of Russia was a republic. Turkey's area in Europe is 9000 sq. m. Other area 693,000 sq. m.

The German Empire includes 4 kingdoms, 6 grand duchies, 5 duchies, 7 principalities, 3 free towns and 1 Reichland. Colonial area 1,690,000 sq. m.

The dominant people of Austria Hungary, Bohemia, are the Czechs, Slavs, Maagyr and Teuton or German Austrian. Of these the Czechs and Slavs are the more numerous while the Teuton Maagyr element has always held the reins of government. To stabilize these variegated countries will be a job of the first magnitude.

Five fatalities were reported to the state industrial accident commission for the week ending November 14 among a total of 522 accidents, and in addition there were five previously reported. Of the total number of accidents reported 501 were subject to the provisions of the workmen's compensation act.

Owing to the short pasturage and high cost of feed there is reported a great deal of suffering among live stock in many parts of the state and the Oregon Humane society has many calls to investigate conditions and compel owners to provide better feed and shelter for the animals.

While engaged in digging potatoes at Lake Labich, near Salem, two convicts from the state penitentiary made their escape recently. One is Earl Riley, 29 years of age, who is serving a larceny sentence from Multnomah county, and the other, Bud Stubler, aged 32, a forger from Umatilla county.

State Fire Marshal Wells has issued a bulletin on fire protection and prevention in which, among other valuable advice, is given the admonition not to depend altogether on the telephone in spreading a fire alarm. He cites several recent instances of disastrous blazes which were allowed to get beyond control because of faulty or delayed telephone connection.

Two bills, both designed to expedite the work of Oregon courts, have been drafted by the committee on law reform and will be presented by that committee before the next legislature. Both propose to give additional powers to the chief justice of the supreme court and to make the body of circuit court judges in the state a more elastic group of officials. One of the new proposed bills would make all circuit court judges available for use on the supreme bench in case of a congestion of business in that body. The other bill would give the chief justice of the supreme court power to direct any circuit judge in the state to hold court in any other county of the state.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION ARE RECEIVED

Mayor Beauchamp and Major Lambert received the following letter from Salem this week, which shows that Stayton's efforts were very highly appreciated by Salem citizens at the celebration on Liberty Day:

November 15, 1918.

Mayor of Stayton: We wish, through you, to extend to the citizens of your town our appreciation of the spirit and patriotism that brought your townspeople to our city, on last Monday, to participate in our Victory Parade and celebration.

The Liberty Bell brought by you, was, by far, the best feature in the line and it was highly spoken of by everyone.

We also appreciate the large attendance of Stayton people to help us celebrate, and we can assure you that every citizen of Salem feels grateful to all, for the interest taken.

We hope that now the war is over and our boys will soon be coming home, to give them a most royal welcome and show them that the hardships and sacrifices made in the trenches have not been forgotten, and we here and now extend to you a most cordial invitation to come and help us celebrate this home coming in a way that the boys will remember and cherish the rest of their lives.

Again thanking you, we are

Yours truly,
SALEM COMMERCIAL CLUB,
F. W. Stuesloff, President.
Robt. C. Paulus, Vice-Pres.
Chas. Fisher, Secretary.
S. B. Elliott, Treasurer.
Frank J. Chapman, Manager.

Salem, Or., Nov. 14, 1918.

Maj. L. S. Lambert,
Commander Stayton Co.

My Dear Major:

I wish to compliment you and the Stayton company on the excellent showing made in the Liberty Parade on the 11th, also in the thoughtfulness in bringing over the Liberty Bell which was the feature of the parade. All Salem is still talking of the Stayton boys' enthusiasm and patriotism and their part in the parade. Please express to those participating our pleasure and appreciation.

HAL D. PATTON,
King Bing of the Cerrians.

Salem, Or., Nov. 16, 1918.

Maj. L. S. Lambert,
Stayton, Oregon.

My Dear Major Lambert:

This is written to express to you my personal appreciation, and to convey to you the fact that all Salem appreciates what the Stayton Company did in assisting at the celebration of victory a few days ago. The Liberty Bell was a matter of much comment of a very favorable nature among a large number of Salem people, and to me, personally, it was a matter of great gratification. You know, Major, that I am, and always have been very proud of the Stayton Company, and without hesitation I have told the Salem Companies that your Company easily carried off the honors.

If you will convey to your Company my thanks for your Company's forcible expression of loyalty I should appreciate it, and I hope you will accept, also, my best wishes for the future prosperity of the company.

My very best wishes to you, also. Very respectfully,
ANDREW T. WOOLFERT,
Lieut. Col. 1st Reg. O. G.

They let us up to the trough, but they didn't make us drink, did they boys?

Patrons of the Trover-Weigle Studio will please take notice that owing to the first Saturday and Sunday coming so close to Christmas, the Studio will be open on the last day of November and the first day in December in order to give patrons more time to get their pictures before the holidays.