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DEATH FOLLOWS 30 FOOT FALL

Carl Chapman, of Bend, the Victim of a Fatal Accident Last Friday at his Powell Buttes Ranch.

Carl Chapman, the 21-year-old son of C. A. Chapman, a merchant in Bend, was almost instantly killed last Friday afternoon in an accident which happened at the Chapman ranch in the old river bed south of Powell Buttes. From the shoulders of a man who was carrying him up the ladder out of a well which they were digging, young Chapman plunged headlong a distance of 30 feet crushing his skull on the rocks below.

The accident occurred at 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Chapman and George Anthony, whom he had hired to help him, went to the ranch in the morning from Bend to continue sinking the well which had attained a depth of 30 feet. Blasting powder was being used to blow out the rocks which they had encountered and according to the story Anthony told when he reached the ditch camp a few miles south of the Chapman ranch, young Chapman had gone down the ladder a few minutes after the first explosion to begin clearing away the loosened rocks.

Soon after he had made the descent, Anthony heard him call as if in distress. A second call followed, then the stricken man, who had been overcome by the thick smoke, remained silent. Anthony could see nothing through the clouds of smoke which were arising from the shaft, and quickly made his way down the ladder to the bottom of the well where he found Chapman lying unconscious.

Picking the young man up in his arms he let the body rest on his shoulder while he started up the ladder to the fresh air above. As the last few steps were being taken at the top, Chapman, regaining consciousness, began to struggle, and a second later Anthony's arm was wrenched aside and his burden of the moment before shot downward through the ascending smoke to the rock bottom of the shaft.

Anthony again made the descent and finding no signs of life in the body, hastened to the camp of the Deschutes Irrigation & Power company some nine miles farther south, where he told of the accident. Several men went back at once, and word was sent to Dr. Coe at Bend who drove out to the Chapman ranch, arriving a couple of hours later.

Young Chapman's body by that time had been brought to the surface and Dr. Coe, after making an examination, stated that death had ensued a few minutes after the unfortunate man struck the sharp rocks at the bottom of the well.

The body was removed to Bend where the funeral was held last Monday afternoon, interment taking place at the Pilot Butte cemetery. Deceased leaves a widow and a three-months-old child at Bend, besides a father and sister. He was insured in the Massachusetts Mutual, his policy having been in force only 13 days prior to his untimely death.

League as a pioneer to gain information on the best roads and routes to be used in compiling a roadbook for the use of future enthusiasts who may care to take the trip. His itinerary on this account is a very long and complicated one, and preparations have been made for a difficult and arduous journey.

The route as at present mapped out is nearly twice as long as any other automobile trip ever undertaken, and amounts approximately to a tour of nearly 9000 miles. The car selected for the attempt is a Reo of 16-horse-power, equipped with numerous appliances for measuring distances and including a full camping outfit and set of firearms.

Megargle will first come directly to Portland, and after reaching this city it is his intention to spend a week at the Fair, and then run down the Willamette Valley and on to California and San Francisco. From there he will strike across the Great American Desert in Nevada and Utah, returning to New York City by the first of November.

In his travels Megargle will be accompanied by a first-class mechanic from the factory, but will do his own driving. The start is to be made from the Waldorf-Astoria, in New York, on the 15th of this month.—Telegram.

AGED RANCHER HAS DISAPPEARED

Sam Branton Dropped from Sight July 24—County Offers Reward for Recovery of His Body.

Considerable mystery surrounds the disappearance of Sam Branton, an old man who left his ranch near the lower bridge on the Deschutes river the 24th of last month. Since that time he has completely dropped from sight, notwithstanding the efforts of several searching parties which have been formed to look for him.

It has been given out that the old man, who is near 80 years of age, committed suicide, but the county officials are inclined to believe that Branton met his fate at the hands of some one who was anxious to get him out of the way. Whether this theory will be substantiated remains to be seen, but the fact remains that the old man, being too feeble to wander any considerable distance from his stopping place, has defied the diligent efforts of residents in this vicinity to locate him. Furthermore, his complete disappearance makes it apparent that if he did commit suicide his body would have been found in the river, but this theory has been dispelled during the past week by a party of several men who have dynamited the river for several miles in the hopes of bringing the body to the surface. So far their efforts have proved futile.

The account of the old man's disappearance first reached the neighbors three weeks ago. The son, Clarence Branton, who has been staying on the ranch with his father, told the residents his father had tired of living at the home place and had expressed a desire to pitch a camp outfit a couple of miles down the river, where the tent was pitched and the old man left to himself. A few days later, the son states, he went to the camp to see how his father was getting along, and found that he had disappeared. Every effort on his part to locate the old man failed and he then informed the neighbors.

Since that time several searching parties have scoured the hills and nearby canyons in the hopes of finding the body, the son having stated as his opinion that his father had taken his own life. A failure to locate the old man's body led to an investigation of the river, but the free use of dynamite has likewise failed to throw any light on the mystery surrounding his disappearance. Three weeks having elapsed since Branton was last seen, the county authorities were called upon with the result that a reward had been offered to instigate greater effort on the part of those who have been making the search.

The county authorities believe that they have a murder mystery to solve, and greater effort will be made to find some trace of the old man's body, believing that when they do it will furnish some clew upon which to work.

Branton is the father of Claude Branton, the young man who was convicted and hanged a couple of years ago for the murder of a man named Linn. Young Branton and his partner, Green, killed Linn at a lonely spot in the Cascades, then burned his body. Green turned state's evidence and was given a life sentence. Branton paid the penalty of death for the foul crime. Another son only last spring shot a man in order to get his life insurance, then wrote a letter to the coroner, forging his victim's signature, in which he stated that the man whom he had attempted to murder had committed suicide. The intended victim, however, recovered, told the facts in the matter and young Branton will suffer the penalty of attempted murder.

WOOL OUTPUT WILL NEVER INCREASE

Sheep ranges in Oregon are now filled to their capacity by flocks, and as there are no new ranges available in this state, it is the opinion of Charles H. Green, of San Francisco, who purchases more wool in this state than any other man, that the wool output of Oregon can never be increased. Mr. Green is connected with S. Carson & Company, of San Francisco, which concern is also connected with J. Carson, of Boston, says the Telegram.

Ninety per cent of the wool crop of Eastern Oregon was purchased this year by the Carson firm and shipped direct to Boston. In fact, the Carsons are the heaviest wool-buyers who operate in this state. It is estimated by Mr. Green that the wool output for Oregon this year will be between 19,000,000 and 20,000,000 pounds, something like 1,000,000 pounds less than the output for last year. Of this amount, 14,000,000 pounds were produced in Eastern Oregon, of which 11,000,000 pounds were purchased and shipped by Mr. Green. Prices ranged from 16 to 20 cents a pound in Eastern Oregon, and went as high as 28 cents in Willymette Valley. Mr. Green does not operate extensively in this latter section nor in Southern Oregon.

Eastern Oregon, Mr. Green says, produces the finest grade of wool grown in the state. The wool in this section is not as high in quality as last year, Mr. Green says, owing to the dry weather that prevailed last Winter, causing more sand to accumulate in the fleece, making the expense of scouring greater and causing more shrinkage.

"Eastern Oregon is fast coming in competition with Montana as a producer of high-grade wool," said Mr. Green this morning, "a higher class of bucks being put on the ranges. This stock is now about three-quarter breed Merino, which produce a longer staple and higher grade product."

"Wool grown in the Willamette Valley and in Southern Oregon is of a coarser grade, but owing to the increased demand for this class of wool and the disty condition of Eastern Oregon clip, the price went higher for the former."

"Montana is now the leading wool state in the Union, with an output of from 35,000,000 to 36,000,000 pounds annually. Wyoming is a close second with an estimated output of between 32,000,000 to 34,000,000 pounds. The Montana wool is of a higher grade, however."

Mr. Green also operates in the State of Washington. He says the output in that state this year is estimated at about 7,000,000 pounds. This wool was also in a dirty condition, Mr. Green says, and most of it was scoured at Pendleton or The Dalles, Oregon, before it was sent to the Boston market.

TEACHERS GET THEIR PERMITS

Eleven teachers, who formed the largest class taking the August examinations for several years, took the tests in various studies last week. The examinations, which continued for three days, closed Friday and the certificates were issued Saturday morning. Ten of those who took the examinations belong in Crook county. Miss Orpha Pettit's papers were sent to Wasco county as she will teach in the Antelope schools for coming winter. Only two applicants who appeared for the examinations were unsuccessful.

Saturday morning certificates were issued to the following: Miss Mamie Scoggin, 1st grade; Miss Grace Jones, Miss Winnie Cline, Miss Kidder, Hubert Scoggin, 2nd grade; Miss Aulie Snyder, Miss Myrtle Scoggin, 3rd grade. Both Miss Snyder and Miss Scoggin made second grade average, but owing to the lack of experience could not be issued a second grade certificate.

Announcement



Boyd Adams having purchased an interest with C. C. Dunham in the New York Racket Store, and they having purchased the stock of Clothing and Furnishing Goods of B. Gormley desire to announce to the public that the new firm has moved into the building formerly occupied by Mr. Gormley and will do business in our new quarters under the firm name of the

OWL CASH STORE

In our new quarters we have more room and in addition to the large stock which we now have we will add several new lines making our store the most complete and up-to-date in the county. We wish to call your special attention to our Shoe Department as we intend to make this our specialty and cater to the wants of the particular

Thanking you for your patronage in the past and with a cordial invitation for all to call and see us in our new quarters we are

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WILL COME WEST AGAIN IN AN AUTO

Word has been received at the Lewis and Clark Exposition that Percy F. Megargle, who was second in the great automobile race across the Continent to the Fair last June, will again steer a touring car from ocean to ocean, arriving at the Exposition, it all goes well, in 35 days after leaving New York, the starting point. He is being sent out by the American Motor

There are six Federal land districts in Oregon. Compiled figures up to July 1, 1904, of the unappropriated and unreserved land in these districts show that of this class of land there was then a total of 14,527,289 acres of surveyed and 5,646,965 acres of unsurveyed land in the six districts, a total of 20,174,254 acres. A vast territory yet remains to be settled and which will eventually maintain a population of many hundreds of thousands. The total land surface for the state is given as 61,277,440 acres, of which 14,894,967 acres is forest reserve or set aside for reservoir sites, principally the former. The area settled is 26,208,219 acres, a trifle more than 6,000,000 acres in excess of the acreage still available for settlement. The population of the state is estimated at between 500,000 and 600,000 people. Of the total number of available lands for settlement last year, only 138,176 were arid lands, a very small percentage of the entire amount.

Figures for the fiscal year ending July 1, 1905, have not been issued by the Federal Government and when they are given out it will be interesting to determine the number of acres taken up by settlers during the 12 months preceding last July 1.