

## ALASKA IS SUNK; MANY LIVES LOST

### Steamer Hits Blunt's Reef in Fog

## 131 PASSENGERS ABOARD

### Some Survivors Are Saved by Vessels Close to Scene of Disaster.

## PORTLANDERS ON CRAFT

### Radio Calls for Help Stop in Less Than Hour After Wreck Is Reported.

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 6.—The steamship Alaska sank in 15 minutes, with the loss of many lives, according to a radio message picked up by the harbor department here at 11:55 P. M.

The message said the vessel listed to starboard and began sinking immediately after striking the rocks. The harbor department said the flash came from the steamer Anxox. The message added that the Anxox had picked up the second boatload from the Alaska.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 6.—A radio message from the steamer Anxox received here shortly before midnight said the Alaska, which struck on Blunt's reef tonight, had listed to starboard, overturned and sunk in 15 minutes with the loss of many lives. The Anxox reported she was standing by, picking up survivors from the water and from the boats of the Alaska.

NORTH HEAD, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special.)—One boat load of passengers from the Alaska was picked up by the steamer Anxox, according to a wireless message from that vessel at 11:20 tonight.

The passenger steamer Alaska, of the San Francisco & Portland Steamship company, conceded to be the finest vessel operating in the coastwise trade out of Portland, struck on Blunt's reef shortly after 9 o'clock last night and was believed to have gone down, according to radio messages from the Alaska picked up by North Head and other wireless stations. All the passengers were reported to have been transferred to small boats, and several steamers, close to the scene of the wreck, were speeding to the rescue of the passengers. The accident occurred during thick, foggy weather.

### Some Passengers Saved.

A message received here from Eureka stated that the steamer Anxox was proceeding to the Alaska's assistance and was only five miles from the scene of the wreck. A few minutes later another message came through saying that the Anxox had picked up one boat.

According to a message from Seattle, the tank steamer El Segundo had caught the Alaska's distress signal at 9:43 P. M. and was proceeding to the scene, though she was 120

## 131 PASSENGERS ON WRECKED STEAMER

### 25 OF THEM BOOKED IN CABIN LIST.

### Only Eight Carried in Steerage of Doomed Vessel—Complete List of Names Is Given.

The list of passengers on board the Alaska follows:

- Cabin List.**
- H. Steele.
  - C. F. Menke.
  - F. C. German.
  - Carl Berch.
  - H. O. Laughlin.
  - E. Herlow.
  - N. Dars.
  - W. H. Dyer and wife.
  - Frona Erker.
  - Emma Ylander.
  - Ida Ylander.
  - J. R. Clark.
  - R. Davis.
  - F. Erickson.
  - A. Livingston.
  - Mrs. A. A. Northrup.
  - Joan Fitzgerald.
  - J. E. Clark.
  - E. Felngold.
  - A. N. Hutchinson.
  - W. L. Hutchison and wife.
  - Miss V. Viser.
  - Mrs. Oestiff.
  - Mrs. R. S. White.
  - Fred White.
  - F. J. Richards.
  - C. A. Ruse Jr.
  - Miss B. Cole.
  - Mr. Gustav.
  - M. P. Nisowandie.
  - H. M. Jensen.
  - Amanda Westrom.
  - Miss Ruth Hart.
  - Mrs. Mae Wright.
  - Mrs. K. Whiteford.
  - Mrs. J. Sommercamp.
  - W. A. Sags.
  - E. Picken.
  - Evelyn Shippley.
  - Florence Jenkins, off at Astoria.
  - Mayme Baker.
  - Mrs. A. M. Root.
  - Alma Ayerill.
  - Bella Salter.
  - I. N. Waggoner and wife.
  - L. W. Scheane and wife.
  - Mrs. L. M. Blestine.
  - George Goodall and wife.
  - Mrs. J. E. Nichols.
  - T. V. Manly.
  - Josephine Karstena.
  - Frances Maphia.
  - G. W. Owen.
  - George W. Buswell.
  - Martha Nichols.
  - Mrs. J. E. Nichols.
  - Ida Carlson.
  - Miss M. Landberg.
  - Frances Eckelson.
  - H. F. Bonnerville.
  - Clara Beckwith.
  - Helen E. Curlin.
  - H. M. Springstead.
  - Mrs. Springstead.
  - Martha Kuntovd.
  - Ida Onby Anderson.
  - George Blum.
  - John Jakevov.
  - Mrs. E. Jakevov.
  - G. Phillips and wife.
  - J. H. Skoglund and wife.
  - C. I. Velin.
  - A. Kuntz and wife.
  - J. Oliver and wife.
  - C. Wright and wife.
  - E. Bohm and Freda Bohm.
  - A. J. Franklin.
  - George Edwards.
  - Miss H. B. McFarland.
  - Miss G. B. Smith.
  - Miss J. Stone.
  - Miss M. J. Albers.
  - Carrie C. Logna.
  - H. Scansbrick.
  - F. C. German.
  - J. A. Morse.
  - Miss V. Walden.
  - Miss M. Seiden.
  - J. Nyzanski and wife.
  - Thomas Johnson and wife.
  - C. Cunningham.
  - E. White.
  - A. E. Welch and wife.
  - O. W. Terlin and wife.
  - H. W. Comm.
  - G. W. Putnam.
  - Flora Winn.
  - Ellen Bradley.
  - A. Bailey.
  - C. Bailey.
  - W. G. Ross.
  - Minnie Kan.
  - Steerage—C. H. Olten, G. S. Forrest, B. J. Doherty, John Nelson, Charles Magnuson, Joseph Nagy, O. Kumara, H. W. Erickson.

## YAQUINA SPRUCE RAILROAD IS SOLD

### Multnomah Lumber & Box Co. Closes Deal.

## EARLY OPERATIONS PLANNED

### Spruce Logs to Be Hauled to Portland Sawmill.

### PURCHASE PRICE \$400,000

### Government Line Built During War Insures Concern Outlet for 30 Years' Timber Supply.

Purchase of the Yaquina Northern railroad, extending from a connection with the Southern Pacific line at Yaquina, Lincoln county, 11 miles north through the city limits of Newport and to Agate beach, with an additional two miles north upon which no steel is laid, was completed yesterday by the Multnomah Lumber & Box company of Portland, from the United States spruce corporation, for a price of \$400,000.

Negotiations had been under way for several months and the deal has the approval of the secretary of war. The purchase was completed in all save minor details last month.

The line was built by the government during the war to tap a large tract of high-grade spruce in the Sitka reservation territory of Lincoln county, and it is one of the finest pieces of railroad of standard equipment in the west.

Cost to the spruce division of the United States army in building the line was \$1,271,506 and the spruce forest it enters is declared to be the largest remaining in the United States and aggregates from 2,000,000,000 to 3,000,000,000 feet, board measure.

At the present time it is said it would cost \$700,000 to duplicate the construction of the road and it would require one or two years. There are tunnels on the line, clearances are very wide, with a maximum curvature of 16 degrees. There is a maximum 2.5 per cent grade against loads, with the maximum against empties is 3.7 per cent. There are complete engine housing, fuel oil and water facilities, log dumps and booming grounds and the purchase includes a small sawmill at Otter rock which was built to cut ties for the railroad.

## PARLIAMENT CALL FREES REPUBLICANS

### IRISH PRISONERS ARE TO BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND.

### Dublin Castle Makes Official Announcement of Step as Aid in Promoting Peace.

DUBLIN, Aug. 6.—(By the Associated Press.)—All members of the Irish republican parliament now in custody will be released, with one exception, in anticipation of the meeting of the parliament called for August 15. Official announcement that the prisoners would be freed was made today. The exception is John J. McKeown, convicted of the murder of District Inspector McGrath. Dublin castle's statement which made the announcement read: "In keeping with the public undertaking given by the prime minister that his majesty's government would facilitate the steps being taken to promote peace in Ireland, it has been decided to release forthwith and without condition all members of the Dail Eireann who are interned or are undergoing sentences of penal servitude or imprisonment to enable them to attend the meeting of the Dail Eireann which is to be held on August 15. It has been decided that one member, Mr. McKeown, who has been convicted of murder, cannot be released."

## STOP PUT TO SPOONING

### Billing and Cooing in Walla Walla Federal Building Ended.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special.)—Spooning in the federal building at night is to stop.

An order was issued tonight, effective immediately, closing the building from 10 P. M. to 6 A. M., daily.

## HARDING AND PARTY END VACATION TRIP

### 140 MILES COVERED IN AUTO TO BOARD YACHT.

### President Visits Disabled War Veterans and Asks Many Questions About Needs.

PORTLAND, Me., Aug. 6.—President Harding ended his vacation visit to the White mountains of New Hampshire today and crossed Maine to board the yacht Mayflower here to return to Washington. Accompanied by Mrs. Harding and other members of the party, the president made the 140-mile cross-country trip by automobile, starting early in the day from Lancaster, N. H., where he has been guest of Secretary Weeks since Tuesday. He went out of his way to visit a soldiers' sanitarium at Oxford, Me., stopped at Poland Spring for lunch and a game of golf and accepted an invitation to pay a brief call and make a speech at Westbrook, just outside of Portland, in the early evening. The party boarded the Mayflower at midnight and is expected to arrive at the capital Tuesday noon. The stop at Westbrook was arranged at the request of Senator Hale of this state. Several thousand gathered to hear the president's speech, reiterating his prediction that America would find it possible to assume the leadership for world peace at the coming disarmament conference.

Before he said goodbye today to the mountain lodge near Lancaster, Mr. Harding played a round of golf. It was the final match of a tournament for the championship of the party, and although Mr. Harding made a low score the title went to Senator Hale.

During the stop at Oxford, both Mr. and Mrs. Harding were present. (Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)

## DIVORCEE IS HELD IN MURDER CASE

### Love for Man She Saw Killed Is Asserted.

## WOMAN KEPT AS WITNESS

### Fantastic Clews May Solve Baffling Mystery.

## AFFAIR COVERS YEARS

### Insurance Broker and Reputed Finance Shot Dead—Two Men in Brush Are Accused.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 6.—(Special.)—Mrs. Madelyne Obenchain, young divorcee, was held in the county jail here as a material witness in connection with the slaying of her reputed fiancé, John E. Kennedy, insurance broker, while detectives perused letters she wrote Kennedy in the hope of finding something to shed light upon the killing.

At the Los Angeles county sheriff's office tonight it was announced that a definite clew had been obtained indicating that Kennedy, shot on the steps of his summer cottage in Beverly Glen before the eyes of Mrs. Obenchain, was murdered by a man who recently came to Los Angeles from Illinois.

This man, it was said, knew Mrs. Obenchain intimately and also her husband. It was reported that he took a room near Mrs. Obenchain and watched her while here. A search has been started for the suspect.

Solution of a crime so shrouded in intricate mystery as to be almost without parallel seems to be imminent. Deputies from Sheriff Treagor's office are believed to be closing around the slayer.

## Fantastic Clews Followed.

Darting in a dozen directions, deputies tonight were following clews, some so fantastic as to smack of romance.

Yet out of the cloudy maze they expected to avenge the death of Kennedy before dawn. The case is even more sensational than the murder of Jacob Charles Denton here recently.

Here are the facts: J. Bolton Kennedy, 28, was a wealthy insurance broker of Los Angeles. He lived with his parents at 1238 Francis avenue. He was associated with his father, John D. Kennedy, in business.

Shortly after 9 o'clock last night two shots were fired at or near his summer cottage in the Beverly Glen canyon.

## Victim Found Shot Dead.

Within a few minutes George Deering, Southern Pacific yardmaster, was stopped by Mrs. Obenchain as he was driving past the cottage. He found Kennedy dead on the steps of the cottage with a gaping buckshot wound in his head.

Subsequently Mrs. Obenchain told Deering and officers that Kennedy had been shot from the steps of the cottage with a gapping bullet after two shots were fired.

Other neighbors said an automobile had roared down the canyon road just before Deering arrived.

That, in concrete form, is the story.

## Woman Admits Her Love.

Mrs. Obenchain asserted, and her story has been substantiated, that she had known Kennedy six years. She knew him before she married Ralph B. Obenchain, Chicago attorney.

She loved him. That is her statement. She had loved him before she married Obenchain, during the short years of her married life, after her divorce and she loves him now, in death. They had always corresponded.

She denied vigorously that she had hated him or that there had been a

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## BOY DROWNS IN SIGHT OF FRANTIC MOTHER

### YOUTH, SEIZED BY CRAMPS, RESCUED BY WORKMAN.

### Death of Errol Sharp in Clackamas River Attributed by Coroner to Heart Attack.

ERROL SHARP of Gladstone, 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Sharp, was drowned in the Clackamas river about 1:40 yesterday afternoon near the bridge, about a mile and a half from Oregon City. He was paddling about in 15 feet of water when cramps seized him.

The report was brought to Portland by C. Wiles, state traffic inspector, who reached the scene as the body was taken from the water. Wiles and others spent two hours in a vain effort at resuscitation. F. P. Murphy, a workman, was about to take a swim when companions of Sharp called to him that the boy was drowning. Murphy dived to the bottom and returned with the body. It was said that after the boy first sank he did not come to the surface.

Both father and mother were on the river bank during the rescue and the attempt to revive him. The frantic mother said that she had warned him against going into the water, as he was unable to swim; but he was fond of the sport and believed that he could swim well enough to take care of himself. He was a husky youth, but an inch or two short of six feet.

The drowning occurred in what is known as "the big eddy." The coroner at Oregon City attributed the death to a heart attack.

## DRIVERLESS AUTO STARTS

### Machine Hits Boy and Fracture of Leg Results.

Struck by a driverless automobile that started after being parked on the slope of South Broadway street, 14-year-old Louis Levitt, 445 Broadway, sustained a fractured leg and other injuries less serious at 7:45 o'clock last night.

The boy was playing ball with friends in the street when the automobile started and struck him before he could escape. There was no one in the machine at the time and it is believed that the brakes were defective. The boy was taken to the Good Samaritan hospital.

## COAL PRICE WAR STARTED

### Drop of \$2 Ton on Heating Grades Already Reported.

A coal war was started locally when the Pacific Coast Coal company reduced the price of the other day from \$16.50 to \$15 a ton without consulting the other dealers.

The Andrews-Conover company decided to go one better and so announced yesterday a price of \$14 a ton, delivered at the curb, and \$14.50 a ton delivered in the basement.

The reduction in each case was on the common grades of Utah and Wyoming lump coal customarily used for heating purposes.

## \$500 OFFERED FOR BODY

### Posting of Reward Spurs Search for Idaho Man.

OGDEN, Utah, Aug. 6.—Spurred on by the offer of a \$500 reward, scores today were searching for the body of Roland R. Mason, Idaho Falls insurance man, whose wrecked automobile was found late Tuesday night in Weber river below a 20-foot embankment.

The search has been extended to a deep and swift irrigation canal near the scene of the curb, some believing that if Mason was murdered his body was thrown into that canal.

## FAIR WEATHER FORECAST

### Normal Temperature Predicted for Pacific Coast States.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 6.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Monday are: Northern Rocky mountain and plateau regions—Moderate temperatures and generally fair.

Pacific states—Generally fair and normal temperatures.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 2.)

## PACKAGE SHIPPED ON DAY OF MURDER

### Dr. Brumfield's Action Is Believed Ruse.

## BOX IS SENT TO SEATTLE

### Women's Silk Underwear Is Bought by Dentist.

## SHIPMENT IS RETURNED

### Sheriff Starmer Gets Bundle of Odds and Ends That Was Sent From Myrtle Creek.

ROSEBURG, Or., Aug. 6.—(Special.)—A package shipped by Dr. R. M. Brumfield from Myrtle Creek to Seattle, on the afternoon of the day on which Dennis Russell was murdered, was returned today to Sheriff Starmer and was found to contain a number of articles of women's wearing apparel and a number of small articles, including a hymn book, several candlestick holders, an old black satin Christmas tree, remnants of cloth and other miscellaneous articles.

That the box was mailed out merely as a ruse to mislead the officers was the belief expressed today by officials. This opinion was strengthened by the fact that there was no complete outfit in the box. There were several pieces of pink silk undergarments, a pink silk shirt, two khaki blouses, an old black satin skirt and a great deal of rubbish, but nothing which would constitute a complete costume.

The box was obtained at Burchard's store on the morning of July 13. Dr. Brumfield appeared at about 10 o'clock in the morning and asked for a packing box. As this was a common request and one frequently asked by the coroner, the clerk, who was quite busy, directed him to the rear part of the building, where there is a storeroom where such articles are kept.

Purchases Made by Doctor.

Mr. Burchard, proprietor of the store, only a few days previously had cleaned out this room and had destroyed all of the boxes with the exception of one large box which was used as a depository for semi-valuable articles. In this box had been dumped several books, including a leather-bound volume of Shakespeare, a few small classics, a textbook used for the instruction of a Sunday school class, a hymn book, several remnants of silk cloth, a few spoons of slightly damaged darning cotton, some small candle holders, a large number of old dress patterns and many other things of this nature.

Some of the articles of clothing contained in the package were procured at Burchard's store, but as Dr. Brumfield was a regular customer at the store and frequently made purchases there for his wife, nothing was thought of his buying the garments.

## Box Taken to Myrtle Creek.

Dr. Brumfield, upon receiving the desired permission, went to the storeroom and took the large box, together with its contents. Into it he dumped the articles of clothing mentioned and took the package to Myrtle Creek where it was expressed to Seattle at 1:48 o'clock on the afternoon of July 13.

H. A. Tibbils, station agent at Myrtle Creek, declared that Dr. Brumfield appeared there shortly after 1 o'clock. The station agent was not acquainted with the dentist and accepted the latter's statement when he said he was a tourist. Dr. Brumfield gave the name of Mrs. Norman Whitney and said that he wished to ship this box to Mrs. Norman Whitney at a point in Canada.

When informed that he could not ship the package to Canada from that

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SKETCHES BY CARTOONIST PERRY, ILLUSTRATING SOME RECENT NEWS EVENTS.

