

HEARING IS HELD OVER BODIES

Coroner's Jury Returns Verdict of Accidental Death for Five Auto Victims.

ONLY THREE WITNESSES CALLED TO THE STAND

Evidence Brought Out Nothing New Relating to Recent, Sad Accident.

INVESTIGATE BOY'S STORY.

Evidence which strengthens the supposition advanced in yesterday's Times, that the automobile accident at Pony Slough might have been caused by the effort of the driver to avoid hitting the Kalend boy, who was on the bridge, was found today by W. B. Curtis. Curtis took the lad to the scene of the tragedy and finds that he was standing at the end near the middle of the bridge. As the machine came down the hill he expected it to turn off on a road just above the bridge, but as they kept straight ahead he had to leap aside. The machine, he says, turned to avoid him and got too near the edge and went over.

THE VERDICT.

"We find he came to his death by either drowning or his being crushed beneath an automobile in an accident on the county road bridge at Pony slough, the automobile running off the said bridge into the slough. We find no one to blame for the accident."

A coroner's jury, composed of Irving Chandler, Jay B. Tower, H. G. Huntley, J. W. Roney, J. B. Mulloy and P. L. Swearingen, last night inquired into the automobile accident in which five men, Oswald A. Wirth, M. C. Pedersen, Bluford Davis, James Wasson and John Neigathon were killed near the North Bend High School Thursday evening.

Five verdicts were returned, one for each of the dead men, and all were identical. The verdict read as follows:

"We find he came to his death by either drowning or his being crushed beneath an automobile in an accident on the county road bridge at Pony slough, the automobile running off the said bridge into the slough. We find no one to blame for the accident."

Only three witnesses were called to the stand. Coroner Wilson stating after the testimony of the three had been given that it would be a useless expense and a waste of time to call more, considering the plainly evident accidental circumstances resulting in the accident.

George Wasson was the first witness. He related in detail circumstances leading up to the fatal ride. He told of being met by Bluford Davis and Jim Wasson in the former's car, and being invited to take a ride with them. This was shortly after 1 o'clock in the afternoon. He said the party intended going to South Marshfield to look over some houses in which Mr. Davis was interested. They remained in South Marshfield about an hour and returned to the business portion of town to look for a person whom Mr. Davis called "Blackie." About this time Mr. Davis remarked that he didn't like to drive an empty car—it was too much of a waste. He then invited "Chris" Pedersen and J. O'Kelly to accompany the party. Mr. O'Kelly left the party at North Bend. Later Mr. Davis picked up John Neigathon, Oswald Wirth and, at North Bend, Ervin Born joined the crowd.

Wasson told of the trip from North Bend to the bridge, saying that because of repairs being made on the new bridge Davis decided to go over the old road, although he was not familiar with it. Wasson also said that at some distance from the bridge the machine went over a hump, but that so far as he could tell no damage was done to the steering gear. The bump, or log, was at least two feet outside of the road and the machine was of course off the road when the car struck it.

Mr. Wasson said he did not notice a boy on the bridge, or see anybody until after he crawled out of the water, when he saw a boy standing in the road. He stated that he was the only one who made a remark as the car plunged, and that he said: "I believe you have hit something now, Bluf." When the fall occurred he and Wirth were the only ones who tried to jump out.

Wasson was of the opinion that at least three of the men were killed by being crushed beneath the car, and not by drowning. Born was the only one he saw who gave any signs of life as he crawled out of the wreck, and he pulled Born's sleeve from under the front seat, allowing Born to raise his head sufficiently to keep his face above water. Wasson then tried to free some of the others, but they were too tightly held by the heavy car. He then ran back to North Bend and got assistance.

Ervin Born was the second witness. He could remember but little of the actual accident, as the shock paralyzed his senses. He was rendered unconscious and did not know of any assistance given to him by George Wasson. He was brought back to his senses by a kick on the side of the head, and lifted himself up on the outside of the car until his head was out of water. He then freed himself and tried to pull others out who were still struggling. He was sitting on the door at the side of the rear seat and thought the three men who occupied the rear seat were not dead until drowned.

BLUFORD DAVIS WAS RICH MAN

Left an Estate Valued Between \$200,000 and \$300,000—Made a Will.

It was a remarkable coincidence that on the very day he made the final settlement of his father's estate of which he was chief beneficiary, Bluford Davis should go out to his death. He came to town Thursday to make this settlement and during the forenoon signed the final papers and made the last settlements in Judge Hall's office.

The exact extent of the estate of Bluford Davis is not known but it is stated by those familiar with his affairs that he was worth between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

He made a will some time since and it is now kept in the Planagan & Bennett Bank. It will not be opened until after the funeral.

as he could feel them struggling. Born stated that the party had not been drinking to excess. G. W. Stuart, an expressman, was called as the last witness. He had crossed the bridge a few moments ahead of the Davis party and had met them between the bridge and North Bend. His testimony was short. He helped to raise the car from the bodies until they were laid on the bank, so that he could not say whether they were drowned or otherwise killed. He also denied seeing anyone on or around the bridge before the accident.

The inquest was closed after a few remarks by Coroner Wilson to the jury, relative to their duties in the premises, telling them that they were called to place criminal liability, if any existed, and that the cause of death was immaterial, and under the circumstances, only an autopsy could disclose the actual cause. He felt this would be a needless expense. The jury agreed, and after a few moments' deliberation returned the five verdicts.

CORONER HAS VALUABLES.

Coroner Wilson announced this afternoon that the different articles of value lost by the five men who were killed in the automobile wreck on Thursday evening had been collected by him and are now in his possession or have been turned over to relatives of the dead men. Watches, jewelry, money and various articles were found at the scene after the accident. So far as he knows it is now all accounted for, and can be claimed by the relatives from him.

Funeral Services

The funeral of James Wasson took place this afternoon from the Wilson Chapel, Rev. G. LeRoy Hall conducting the services. A quartette composed of Mrs. Chas. Stauff, Mrs. George Watkins, Charles Stauff and Rev. Hall rendered several familiar hymns. There was a large attendance of relatives and friends of the deceased, as he was of a well known pioneer family. The pall-bearers were Max Timmerman, Wyman Albee, V. Ruell, Fred Sandberg, C. A. Pike and Stanley Oldland.

The funeral of Oswald Wirth was held this afternoon at the Coos River Cemetery.

The funeral of Chris Pedersen will be held tomorrow from the Dungan Chapel at 2 p. m. Rev. Gregg of the Christian church will conduct the services.

Simple services will be held for John Neigathon Monday at 2 o'clock at the Dungan Chapel. The body will be interred in the Odd Fellows Cemetery.

No arrangements have been made for the funeral of Bluford Davis.

NOTICE. All members of North Bend Moose No. 1467 are requested to meet at the lodge room Sunday afternoon at 1:30 for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late brother, M. C. Pedersen.

J. P. BRENN, Secretary.

NOTICE TO OWLS. All Owls are requested to meet at the Owl lodge rooms Sunday at 1:15 p. m. for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late brother, M. C. Pedersen.

JOE SCHOTT, Secretary.

NOTICE. All members of Marshfield Aerle No. 538, P. O. E., are requested to meet at the Aerle Rooms, Sunday, 1:30 p. m., for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late Bro. M. C. Pedersen.

J. B. SNEDDON, Sec.

NOTICE. All members of North Bend Moose No. 1467 are requested to meet at the lodge room Sunday afternoon at 1:30 for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late brother, M. C. Pedersen.

J. P. BRENN, Secretary.

ALONG the WATERFRONT

The steamer George W. Elder is expected off the bar about 10 o'clock and if the weather is fair she will pass in at once. She will sail tomorrow at 11 o'clock for Portland.



MRS. LORENZ ENTERTAINS.

Mrs. Henry Lorenz was hostess to the Past Worthy Matrons Club of Coquille last Friday afternoon and a delightful time was enjoyed by those fortunate in being able to attend. The beautiful new home was decorated in roses and flowers of various kinds, giving the most pleasing and artistic effect. After the business meeting the ladies enjoyed a social chat until the luncheon hour, when they were invited to the dining room, where a delicious repast was served by the hostess, assisted by her daughter, Miss Camilla. Those present were Mesdames A. J. Sherwood, C. C. Evined, Bori Folsom, C. R. Barrow, J. S. Lawrence, Chas. Kime, Wm. H. Lyons, J. A. Lamb, J. R. Woodford and F. S. Shagle.—Sentinel.

HOME FROM TRIP.

Paul L. Sterling and wife, of Coquille, returned Friday from their month's vacation trip. Paul says he made a trip to the top of Mount Hood all right without the aid of a guide, going from the snow line to the summit in four hours. Mrs. Sterling waited for him at about the 3000 foot elevation. They also visited relatives at Oakland and Drain.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY.

The Young People's Society of the Norwegian Lutheran Church met Friday evening at the church parlors for their semi-monthly meeting. A pleasant evening was spent in games, after which Miss Sennie Refsland and H. Peterson served refreshments. The next meeting of the society will be held in two weeks when Miss Cora Mathison and Andrew Anderson will serve refreshments.

SURPRISE PARTY.

Thursday evening a large gathering of the young friends of Miss Elsie Larsen surprised her by coming in to spend the evening, bringing a delicious luncheon with them. The occasion was Miss Larson's birthday and a jolly evening was spent with games and music. Those present were Misses Edna Johnson, Sennie Refsland, Cora, Mable and Allice Mathison, Lillian Pittman, Jennie Johnson, Hannah Sunne, Elsie Larsen, Mesdames Andrew Anderson, Peter Onnell, Oliver Larsen, E. G. Mellon, Jalmar Refsland, H. Peterson, K. Branham, Erlain Larson, Lars Larson, Mr.

and Mrs. S. Torvin, Mr. and Mrs. Jens Hansen, Mrs. R. O. Thorpe and Mrs. O. Larsen.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Master Eugene Elliott is celebrating his sixth birthday this afternoon at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Elliott, on South Fourth street, by entertaining a few of his little friends at an afternoon luncheon of ice cream and cake.

JAPANESE PARTY.

Miss Glenda Farrell very delightfully entertained at her home on South Fourth, on Friday evening. The house was decorated in greens and Japanese lanterns, the girls wore kimonos and the refreshments were served in Japanese style. The hostess was assisted in serving by Mrs. Rugloss, Miss Marie Vasey and Mrs. Rider. Those present were Albert Powers, Velma Ross, Marjorie Palmer, Herman Glossop, Mary McArthur, Edmond Glossop, Muri Cox, Dudley Hill, Howard Kelly, Loren Davis, Wilma Hoagland, Harold Haines, Ruby Pittner, Kathryn Rugloss and Glenda Farrell.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Myers leave tomorrow for Corvallis on the Elder. They will reside there while their son Stanley attends college. Mr. and Mrs. Myers have been spending the past five weeks at the home of their daughter, Mrs. James Landrith on Coos River.

COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS

(Continued from Page Seven.)

- T. O. Tommelson, damages, R. D. No. 13, Catching Creek Road, general 24.00
- E. P. Adams, damages, R. D. No. 13, Catching Creek Road, general 73.60
- N. E. Lindquist, damages, R. D. No. 13, Catching Creek Road, general 110.00
- T. A. Walker, auto hire, Co. Court, general 25.00
- G. J. Armstrong, expense and mileage in viewing roads, general 25.75
- Claim A. V. Carlson for refund of

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All Wool Oregon Cassimere Suits at \$20 the Suit.
With Two Pairs of Pants with Each Suit.

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Pay Less and Dress Better.

Are You Getting Ahead?

If not, why not make a start now? It's so easy. So many have told us how glad they were that we persuaded them to set aside just \$10.00 a month, which they would otherwise "fool away," because now they have a safe investment where they would have had nothing to show for months of effort at saving.

We sold, the other day, for \$550.00, four lots in Bay Park which were bought by a man three years ago. He had just enough to make his first payment of \$10.00 a lot, when he started, and had never saved. Now he has a start. He has capital, which will continue to grow. He just needed to make a start, and that's all you need to do. He made a good profit, too. So can you. Let us show you Bay Park.

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\$50.00 referred to L. A. Liljeqvist, District Attorney; claim of M. O. Stammer for \$500.00 for damages in re Stringtown and River Bank Road, not allowed; claim of A. E. Snuster, J. P. District No. 1, for \$5.00 in re State vs. Collins, not allowed; A. O. Hooton, claim for \$10.00 for drawing up right-of-way deed, Big Creek road, not allowed; claims of W. H. Harmon for \$75.00 for damages in R. D. No. 31, Hugh McClain for \$35.00 for one cart of gravel, continued for information; claim of C. A. Smith Lumber Co. for \$494.30, for lumber in re county road on the Baker place, B. C. Shull for \$75.00 for damages on road, W. H. Carlie for \$35.00 for dirt, continued until September, 1914, term; petition to have county finish North Slough Shutter Land Road and for allowance for Mattie E. Thomas, continued until September, 1914, term; bill of A. V. Hatcher for \$7.50 for labor in R. D. No. 11 and H. K. Hodge for \$32.80 for chairman with County Surveyor, not allowed, payroll was not signed.

State of Oregon, County of Coos, I. James Watson, County Clerk, officio Clerk of the County Court, said County and State, custodian of the records, archives and files of said county, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the amount of bills allowed, continued or not allowed, of the various funds of the County, audited by the County Court for said County and State, at a special session of the County Court held July 2, 1914, and at the regular term, 1914, term thereof, as the same appear in Exhibits of Claims of General Road Funds and County Court Journal of said Court now in my office and custody.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the County Court, affixed 11th day of August, A. D. 1914.

JAMES WATSON,
County Clerk.
By ROBT. R. WATSON,
Deputy.

Mr. School Director Your Attention!

Do You Know That Schools of 1,765 Cities Use Victors?

Effective Work of Educational Department Produces This Highly Satisfactory Result in Three Years.

Incomplete reports from the ten States mentioned below, shows the number of cities using the Victor in their schools:

Massachusetts	181
Iowa	98
Illinois	93
Indiana	88
Pennsylvania	85
Ohio	76
California	72
Michigan	71
Wisconsin	67

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