

'SKY PILOT' OF LOGGERS DEAD

Frank Higgins, Who Labored for 20 Years Among Them, Succumbs in Minnesota

Many Coos County loggers and lumber workers will be interested in the following from the Duluth News-Tribune of recent date: "Frank Higgins is dead. The man who 20 years ago, started out, pack on his back to tell the story of 'The Friend of Sinners,' in every lumber camp in northern Minnesota reached 'the dim trail's end,' yesterday at his old home in Shelburn, Ontario.

"In April, 1914, Mr. Higgins underwent an operation for trachoma, brought on by the continual carrying of heavy packs when on the trail, going from camp to camp. A large portion of the collar bone was removed at that time. A second operation this fall failed to give permanent relief and his health failed steadily.

"Funeral services will be conducted at Mr. Higgins' former home in Delano, Min. He is survived by his wife and one daughter, Margaret. From the mission field here John Soraberger, Matt Daly, P. Peterson of Clouet and John McGinnis will attend the services, together with a large number of ministers from the Duluth churches and pastorates of the range.

"Frank E. Higgins was Irish-Canadian by birth, born at Shelburn, Canada, 49 years ago, and was minister by ordination of the Presbyterian church to all the lumberjacks of the United States. When the call of the ministry came to him there were plenty of soul-savers in the big cities, in the country towns and the prosperous rural districts, but nothing had been provided in the way of religious services for the 20,000 'jacks' of the north woods.

"It was the winter of 1895 that the young minister started out. The board of home missions wasn't paying salaries for preachers to the lumberjacks, so Higgins tramped from camp to camp. On Sundays he preached to the townspeople in the little Presbyterian church at Bemidji, and on Monday began his rounds of the camps, with his pack of Bibles, hymn-books and reading material strapped on his back.

"It is said that he came before the Presbytery year after year for three years seeking ordination and each time he failed, for the questions asked didn't come within range of his work.

"Afterwards, it is good to recall, the Presbytery sent for Frank Higgins and ordained him without any theological trills. His parish at that time, started at Duluth, extended west 200 miles, and, starting at Brainerd, extended north 200 miles to the Rainy River country and the Canadian boundary. One man evidently could not carry on the work alone. With the need of aid in the work came the material. John Soraberger, Matt Daly, P. Peterson and John McGinnis, all former woodsmen, who knew the language and ways of the camps, and who had been converted under Mr. Higgins' preaching, took up the work, and the 'lumberjacks' sky-pilot' was transferred to the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions and put in charge of work in the lumber camps throughout the United States.

"Possibly better than anyone else in the north country Frank Higgins knew the old-time 'lumberjack'—his faults, his failings, and his virtues and, as his understandings of the need grew, his sympathy and eagerness to help kept pace. It may be correct to say that Frank Higgins died—but men to whom he ministered, woodsmen from the Maine camps, the Virginia forests and the pineries of Minnesota, Idaho and Washington, will think of him as merely gone ahead on the long trail with those of his converts who have answered the call of the 'Friend of Sinners.'"

BAKER IS VERY ILL.
The friends of Ex-Deputy Game Warden E. J. Baker, will be grieved to learn that last Sunday he had an attack of something similar to paralysis, losing the use of one arm.—Gold Beach Globe.

NEED NEW HOUSES.
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LONDON, Jan. 14.—Plank houses with tarred paper roofs are sorely needed for shelter of peasants in the area ravaged by war, according to A. E. Harvey, the head of a committee of architects, doctors and nurses engaged in formulating a policy of reconstruction in Belgium and parts of France. The architects say that the ruined stone walls are generally unsafe and should not be used. Labor, felt paper, glass and lumber are scarce in France and exhausted in Belgium, so that the problem is difficult.

War Stories by Mail

PATRIOTISM IN GERMANY

Order More Care in Displaying Flags and Playing National Anthem

BERLIN, Jan. 14.—An American who rode three hundred miles across Northern Germany and spent twenty-four hours in Berlin before he saw a single German flag, could not fail to contrast this indifference with the very general display of the Union Jack in England and of the tri-color in France. They order the display of the National emblems differently in Germany. When war first broke out the flags were just as generally displayed as in the other countries, but a change was ordered, and now the flags are unfurled only when there is good news to celebrate. On the day when not a flag was to be seen in crossing from Holland to Berlin, the news of the loss of the German ships off the South American coast had arrived and the flags, which had last been displayed on the day of the successes at Lodz were taken from their staffs. Similarly it is noticeable how less generally patriotic airs are played in the theaters of Berlin. Many Germans claim that it cheapens the airs to have them played nightly in this fashion, and their point of view seems to be generally accepted.

MAKES DYES IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Jan. 14.—No official statement has been issued regarding the scheme for a national aniline dye industry, but committees have been formed and a company organization mapped out.

The company it is understood, will be capitalized at 3,000,000 pounds (\$15,000,000) on which the government will advance 1,500,000 pounds at four per cent interest, principal repayable in 25 years. The interest and sinking fund to repay the loan will come out of the company's profits, and not touch the capital.

The stock is subscribed by textile manufacturers, and principal users of synthetic dyes, and by contracts binding users to purchase their supplies from the company for five years after peace is declared. By that time, it is believed that all the dyes needed for home use, at least, will be British made. Heretofore, Great Britain has been almost as dependent on Germany for aniline colors as the United States is.

ENGLAND FEARS CONSCRIPTION

Home Guard Discouraged by War Office—Would Fight Only Invaders.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times)

LONDON, Jan. 14.—The home guard organizations, which have sprung up like mushrooms since the bombardment of the Harlequins and Scarborough, complain that they are not only receiving small support from the War Office but are being discouraged by Lord Kitchener.

The idea of the home guard is an armed, semi-military organization, ready to be called out in case of a German invasion of the British Isles. Only those who can show good cause for not enlisting in the regular army are supposed to join. These include men over the age of active service, civil servants and men engaged in the manufacture of arms and war material.

One regulation imposed by the War Office, which has done much to take the enthusiasm out of the Home Guard movement, is that requiring the members to sign an agreement to enlist in the army for foreign service if called upon to do so by the War Office. There is no legal way to force such a promise, but the members feel it as a strong moral obligation. Recruiting officers have been visiting the corps already to induce enlistments in the regular force. Another discouraging war office order relates to equipment. Only arms and ammunition are supplied and it is forbidden the corps to wear uniforms except a sleeve band, or any badges or titles of rank, a thing that makes discipline and drill difficult.

To get around the uniform question, the men have been supplying themselves with a civilian dress of uniform color and cut and made somewhat on military lines.

The suggestion has been made that the volunteers, if unable to secure concessions from the War Office regarding the objectionable rules, proceed to establish an independent home guard. This would act without official sanction, but would do what it could to aid recruiting.

It is charged that the War Office aims to prevent any man joining the civilian guards who would be liable to service were the country put under conscription.

CEDAR PILING TO BE USED ON ROAD

General Purchasing Agent Rhoades Says They Are Far Superior to Other Kinds

The following will be of interest here, as Coos and Curry counties probably have more cedar suitable for piling than any other section:

"Increased demand for Oregon cedar by the Southern Pacific Company is reported by I. O. Rhoades, general purchasing agent for the railway, who passed the last few days in Portland contracting for supplies. Cedar piling will be used hereafter on two-thirds of the work requiring bridge building and old piling will be replaced with cedar when structures are renewed.

"It has been found that cedar piling lasts longer in soft ground and by the use of this wood the necessity for treating fir piling is obviated. Northwest cedar also is being used as the material and a new industry is being built up in western Oregon. Last year 250,000 cedar ties were bought for use on the southern Pacific between Los Angeles and El Paso.

"Approximately 85 per cent of all lumber, piling, ties and posts used on the Southern Pacific system is purchased in Oregon, says Mr. Rhoades. Fifteen per cent consists of California Redwood. Purchases in 1914 were equally as heavy as in the previous year, Mr. Rhoades said. The new tie just introduced on the line, which is seven by ten inches instead of seven by nine inches, means a large increase in the number of board feet purchased when it is taken into consideration that millions of ties are bought every year.

"Incidentally, Mr. Rhoades says that Oregon is the only state in which the Southern Pacific is carrying on new construction at present. The Willamette Pacific is the only new line being built by the Southern Pacific along its entire length."

SUGAR WILL BE HIGH.

According to estimates of the sugar beet crop in the United States for 1914, published in the current issue of Farm and Fireside, the product will be 800,000 tons short of the 1913 crop. The chances are that sugar will be one of the last food products to go down in price.

LOCAL TELEGRAPH CO.

A local concern now affords Coos Bay commercial interests the best telegraph service to all Pacific Coast points ever enjoyed by this community. The Coos and Curry Telephone Company employs about fifty people in Coos County, pays taxes on a valuable property, buys all supplies available at home and its ownership is local. This company is vitally interested in the development of Coos Co. and will take particular care to serve well the business interests of the community, thus deserving their patronage from every point of view. Two circuits to Roseburg, equipped with both telegraph and telephone instruments, insure unbroken service. OFFICES ALWAYS OPEN. Standard rates.

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