

# PARCO EXPLOSION DEATHS TOTAL 16

High Pressure Still Blows Up  
Wrecks Factory and Town  
Buildings

RAWLINS, Wyo., April 6.—(AP)—George Currey died at 2:30 o'clock tonight at a hospital after his death bringing the fatalities in the Parco explosion to 16.

PARCO, Wyo., April 6.—(AP)—Something went wrong with a high pressure still in the plant of the Producers and Refiners Corporation here today and the ensuing explosion killed 15 employees, injured seven others and wrecked most of the windows in this model town of yellow concrete buildings. Awakened by the detonation, residents rushed to the plant to find a mass of flames but succeeded in rescuing a few of the injured workers.

The majority of the dead were killed instantly or burned to death before aid could reach them. The bodies of all were badly charred. Two of the men were trapped on top of a 90 foot tower where water is separated from oil. R. N. Sherman jumped to escape the flames which had heated the steel tower to a white heat but landed in the seething furnace of the burning still below. Only his head and shoulders were recovered.

William Dodd, the other worker clinging to his perch on the tower, and the rescuers found his charred body when the steel had cooled sufficiently to permit their climbing it.

Two reasons unofficially were advanced for the explosion, one that there was too much or too little pressure in a chamber of the high pressure still or that the intense heat, 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, had sprung the still. The explosion in the chamber set fire to nine other stills and two storage tanks. The flames were subdued after firemen from Rawlins joined the local firemen. Officials of the company have not decided what caused the accident but an investigation had been started by M. E. Pickett, Carbon county coroner.

The disaster, it is estimated, will cost the state of Wyoming between \$75,000 and \$100,000 in compensation paid to the widows and orphans of those killed, under the state's compensation law. The loss to the Producers and Refiners corporation, it was estimated, will amount to between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000.

Nearly all of the victims were married men with families of from one to three children.

The accident today was the first serious mishap which has happened since Parco was established by Frank Kistler, founder of the Producers and Refiners corporation nearly two years ago. Mr. Kistler built the town as a community center for employes of the company. It followed the Spanish style of architecture and was composed of permanent business and resident structures.

## HOMES BLAMED BY GROUP OF MINISTERS

(Continued from page 1.)

facts public and aroused our citizens by their revelations. Third: We feel that as religious leaders we have been remiss in our work of education, and in our failure to arouse the public to the dangers confronting our young people.

Fourth: We feel that the chief responsibility must rest upon the home. Parents who neglect their children, who fail to maintain confidential relations with their children, who do not know where their children are, nor what they are doing when they are away from their home at night, have a responsibility which they cannot shirk nor lay upon the shoulders of the teachers and religious leaders of the community.

Fifth: It is a well known fact that citizens who hold high positions in social and civic circles are in the habit of using liquor themselves and offering it freely in their social gatherings. Young people are perfectly familiar with this fact. Such citizens cannot evade the responsibility for their action, nor have they any right to blame the young people for drinking, nor the officers of the law for failing to enforce laws which they themselves violate. Bootleggers who sell to adults will sell to minors and no patron of the bootlegger has any right to complain if the bootlegger sells to the youth in the homes of his patrons, or in the homes of his patrons' neighbors.

Sixth: In view of the situation as it exists we are resolved to do all that we can to change these conditions, and we call upon all good citizens, irrespective of their personal tastes and principles, to join with us in this work.

(Signed):  
C. E. Ward, Chairman  
Thomas Acheson  
E. C. Whittaker  
H. F. Shanks  
Alen Pitt  
E. S. Hammond  
Committee.

## WOMEN ARE LEGIONNAIRES

PARIS—Six hundred women have attained the right to wear the rosette of the French Legion of Honor.

## NORMAL GRADUATES SECURE POSITIONS

Superintendents From Several Schools of State Hire Teachers

OREGON NORMAL SCHOOL, Monmouth, April 6.—(Special)—Superintendent Russell of Standfield recently hired two normal students to teach in his school system next fall, according to the appointment bureau secretary.

Eva Wells of Milton, has signed a contract to teach music and girls' athletics in the seventh grade, and will work in conjunction with Wayne McGowan of Independence who will reach the eighth grade and specialize in music and athletics for the boys. These students are among the strongest of the June graduates. Another student, with several years experience, is Rose Zippel of Portland, who has accepted a position in the Gilbert school, Bellrose Station. Two board members of this school visited the Normal last week and made the selection. They were Mr. Himebaugh and Mr. Bush. Alice Southworth of Newport has signed a contract with Superintendent David Jones to teach in the junior high in Eugene next fall. Carol Newth will be located at Philomath.

Superintendent Campbell of Roseburg will be a visitor at the normal Tuesday for the purpose of interviewing prospective teachers through the appointment bureau.

## PTA COUNTY COUNCIL PLAN COOPERATION

Mrs. McAllister Elected President and Resigns; Other Officers Chosen

LIBERTY, April 6.—(Special)—The Marion county council of the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers met at the Liberty Community hall on April 2. The business of the council was taken care of in the morning and was followed by a discussion of the problems of Parent-Teacher work. Mrs. La Moine Clark of Salem, Mrs. Bradley of Aumsville and Mrs. Specht of Silverton gave some very interesting talks.

A delicious lunch was served at noon, the meat course being prepared by the girls' cooking club of Liberty.

In the afternoon Mildred and Kenneth Abbott of Salem rendered several piano duets and the girls' quartet of Turner favored

the council with some beautiful songs.

Mrs. Gabriel, state president, was present and gave a very instructive talk on Parent-Teacher work.

Chester A. Lyons of the Big Brother farm of Lebanon then gave a very interesting talk on the duties of the parent toward the child.

Mrs. McAllister of Salem was elected president, Mrs. N. E. Abbot of Salem, vice president, and Mrs. R. L. Wright of Liberty secretary and treasurer. Mrs. McAllister resigned, saying it would be impossible for her to serve. A new president will be elected soon.

## BANKS IN GOOD CONDITION

SILVERTON, Ore., April 6.—(Special)—The two Silverton banks are in good condition, according to the quarterly statements which appear in answer to the call of the treasury department, office of the comptroller of the currency. The combined deposits of the two banks amounts to nearly \$2,000,000. The banks are the Coolidge and McClaine, and The First National.

## Platting of City Being Considered

Attorney Instructed to Draw Dog Ordinance for Monmouth

OREGON NORMAL SCHOOL, Monmouth, April 6.—(Special)—City of Monmouth council met in regular session last night and passed upon several important ordinances.

A six-year contract was offered by District Manager Page of the Mountain States Power company for lighting the city, and was accepted by the council. Installation of 20 new bracket-type ornamental lights will begin at once throughout three business blocks, and also on the three blocks past the normal school buildings.

An ordinance was passed which

calls for the laying of concrete sidewalks on West Main from College to the city limits.

Discussion of the dog question took up much time, and the city attorney was instructed to draw up a dog ordinance for Monmouth, based on those now in force in Salem and Independence.

Another measure passed was one authorizing an engineer or firm of engineers to make a corrected plat of the City of Monmouth, to be filed with the county clerk, and which will establish grades for curbs, sidewalks, etc., for the entire city. Selection of such a firm will be left to the meeting early next week, at which time parties desiring the work are requested to appear.

## News Items Depict Community Activity

Several People Attend Grange Meeting At Brush College

SPRING VALLEY, April 6.—(Special)—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith were callers in McMinnville on Thursday.

Mrs. Donna Crawford returned from Portland Wednesday evening after spending several days visiting her mother, Mrs. J. C. Zinser. Mrs. Howard Stephens accompanied her.

Mrs. Belle Simkins and Mrs. John Davidson called on Mrs. Phillip Damm last Thursday afternoon.

Superintendent Wills visited the Spring Valley school Friday afternoon.

Several people from this community attended the Grange meeting at Brush College on Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Purvine called at their ranch on Monday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. McLench had as their guests on Sunday three of Mrs. McLench's sisters, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Myers.

Chris Yungen and son, Robert

were business callers in McMinnville last Thursday.

Mrs. Belle Simkins gave a family dinner party on Sunday. Her guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Erel Kirkwood of Seattle; Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Simkins and family of Salem; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Ray and family of Dallas, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Davidson and Cloydine.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse P. Sohn motored to Independence on Monday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. John Grimm and Mr. and Mrs. George Johansen of Portland were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Yungen.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Windsor and family and Mr. and Mrs. John Childers and daughter, Grace, spent Sunday on the Sandy river, near Troutdale.

## BOARD TO INSPECT SITE

First Unit Of New Hospital To Cost About \$260,000

Members of the state board of control left here at noon yesterday for The Dalles where they will inspect the site for the new tuberculosis hospital which was authorized under a measure approved by the voters at the last general election.

The first unit of the plant will cost approximately \$260,000. Of this amount \$160,000 was appro-

riated by the last legislature while an appropriation of \$100,000 was carried in the measure authorizing the institution.

Members of the board were accompanied by Dr. R. E. Lee Steiner, superintendent of the Oregon state hospital.

## Inland Empire Educators to Hear Oregon President

EUGENE, April 6.—(AP)—Dr. Arnold Benner Hall, president of the University of Oregon, who is making a tour of the western universities, will take a prominent part in the meeting of the Inland Empire Education association, now in session in Spokane. It was announced today. President Hall will appear twice on the general session program.

Friday morning, April 8, he will address the general assembly of the association on "Why we don't behave like citizens," and Friday afternoon his subject will be the "Intellectual Basis of Citizenship."

## 75 MILLION EARNINGS

Ford Company Reports That Amount Leaving Out Dividends

BOSTON, April 6.—(AP)—In addition to whatever dividends may have been paid in 1926, the Ford Motor company earned \$75,-

000,000 over and above taxes and other offsets.

Dividend payments were not included in the annual report of the company filed today with the state commissioner of corporations and taxation, but the item of "profit and loss surplus" showed a jump of \$75,270,895 for the last fiscal year and an aggregate increase of more than \$255,000,000 over the 1925 statement.

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