



FATAL ACCIDENT.

Death of William Thomas Caused by Caving Earth.

The funeral of the late William Thomas occurred at 2 p.m. Wednesday from the Evangelical church, the services conducted by Rev. C. T. Hurd. Interment was in the Odd Fellows cemetery.

Deceased was accidentally killed while working in the ditch near the reservoir of the mountain water system, Monday afternoon about 4 o'clock. He was working in the bottom of the ditch, shoveling the dirt to a platform several feet above his head, from where it was thrown out by James Gray, another laborer. Mr. Thomas was down a depth of 12 feet, when the side of the ditch suddenly gave away. John Young, who was working in the ditch directly back of Thomas, stated that he had turned to get a shovel, when he heard Thomas call, "Look out!" and that, looking ahead in the ditch everything seemed to have turned black, and Young realized what had occurred. The earth broke in a seam or ledge, and from one to two tons of dirt buried the unfortunate man in the bottom of the ditch.

A message came to Corvallis by phone and a physician hastened to the scene. The nurse was also sent out, and in the meantime the laborers on the ditch had been digging out the entombed victim. It was found on examination by the physician that Mr. Thomas' neck had been broken, and death was consequently instantaneous and painless.

The remains were brought to Corvallis and taken to the morgue, where an inquest was held. The jury was E. L. Strange, Lincoln Chambers, Wm. Crees, V. A. Vidito, A. E. Wilkins and Homer Lilly, and they returned a verdict of accidental death, and exonerated the foreman from any carelessness in carrying on the work, it being stated in the verdict that it seemed that ordinary precaution had been observed in performing the work.

William Thomas was 36 years of age and was a native of Tennessee. He married Hannah Wilson in 1895, who, with six children survive. The mother is not in robust health, and the family is in a very needy condition. Subscriptions were taken by neighbors and others, Tuesday morning, and quite an amount in cash was contributed.

The case is pathetic in the extreme, and there is general sympathy for the stricken ones.

"Three Men in a Boat."

No doubt the charm of "Life on the Ocean Wave" has been lost for three Newport lads. We judge by the following dispatch sent out from Newport, Monday:

Late last evening the life-saving crew at the Yaquina Bay station effected a most difficult rescue of three young men from Newport who went out deep-sea fishing early yesterday morning. They were C. Baker, Lee Doty and George Michley. When they went out the sea was very smooth and as they went up the coast about ten miles it was late in the evening when they reached the entrance to this harbor again. They found the bar breaking heavily and it was impossible to come in. A southerly gale was threatening and word was sent to the life-saving station. The crew responded promptly.

The surf along the beach at the station was too heavy for the surfboat, after a mile run up to the boat house on the south side of the bay a lifeboat was launched and going out through the entrance succeeded in crossing the bar after a desperate battle with mountainous seas.

Just as it got dark the life-savers picked up the fishermen but were obliged to remain out all night. At six o'clock this morning they got safely in again, with the rescued men, who were in a plight when found their boat only being kept afloat by constant bailing, many of the seams having been sprung open with the heavy pounding of the sea. The life-saving crew are receiving great praise for the gallant rescue.

Now in Prineville.

A few days ago Jesse Spencer, of this city, received a letter from Ed Grefoz, who is now living

in Prineville. The letter is as follows:

As it is about election time I suppose the heat is beginning to run up to the red mark in Tammany—with the doors closed. There seems to be considerable stir here for the primaries. There are eight or nine men who want to be sheriff of Crook county.

It seems as if nearly all the people here are from the valley, in fact, so far as familiar faces are concerned, it is as nearly like home as Corvallis. Enclosed you will find the picture of one of the landmarks of Corvallis 25 years ago (H. M. Bell).

All the people seem to take pride in extending the glad hand to a stranger.

I have been here about three weeks and will say that in that time I have seen less disorder than I have noticed in the valley towns in the same length of time. "Uncle" Harvey to the contrary notwithstanding, Prineville is about the size of Independence, and while they have no college, in addition to their public school they have a very fine brick high school. The national bank occupies a beautiful stone building. There is also under course of construction a fine stone hotel building that would be a credit to any place. There is a Salvation Army here.

I was greatly surprised in the country. It is very much finer than I expected to see, and when they get their irrigation ditches completed it will be but a few years until this will be as fertile a place as the Yakima valley.

This would be a good location at present for some of our chicken cranks. I know one party who has over 50 Brown Leghorn hens and they cannot begin to supply the demand for eggs for hatching purposes.

Well I must close. Give my best regards to the boys.

Appreciates His Work.

We are in receipt of a letter from Captain Apperson and a reading will convince anyone of the service A. J. Johnson has rendered OAC. Furthermore, it draws attention to the fact that if Mr. Johnson was able through his standing to accomplish so much for our institution, it goes without saying that if elected a member of the legislative body of Oregon he will be enabled to accomplish far greater results for our college. The letter we received is as follows:

Park Place, Or.,
April 16, 1906.

Editor Gazette: As a member of the board of regents of the State Agricultural College of Oregon, I desire to publicly express my acknowledgement and appreciation of the valuable assistance, voluntarily rendered, by Mr. A. J. Johnson during the last session of the Oregon legislature.

And he rendered valuable services in securing from the Ways and Means Committee of that body a favorable recommendation providing for the needs of the college and station, and especially in cutting out a large appropriation for a rival institution for duplication of our work.

Mr. Johnson is justly entitled to and should receive commendation for his valuable work in the interest of this institution. The friends of this college in my judgment are under obligations to him.

Respectfully yours,
J. T. APPERSON.

Notice I. O. O. F.

All members are requested to be present at the regular meeting Tuesday, April 24, as business of importance is to be brought before the lodge. By order of N.G.

Vote for Geo. Smith for county commissioner, and you will make no mistake.

THE GENERAL'S IDEA.

Favors Government Building Transcontinental Road.

Editor Gazette: More than a year ago your paper published an article signed by a peasant of Benton county setting forth his reasons for a double-track railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans as the only remedy for the crimes and extortions perpetrated of the United States by the railroad corporation.

The evidence which justifies the application of such a remedy multiplies every day and ere long will move 80,000,000 of freemen to demand the construction of such a highway as their only deliverance from a system of commercial spoliation and slavery such as never before caused this corporation-ridden earth.

Please oblige me by the publication of the following comments of the Hon. W. J. Coombs on this all important subject.

Very respectfully,
T. J. Thorp.

Ex-Representative William J. Coombs, president of the South Brooklyn Savings Bank, has been looking over the legislative field at Washington for the past several days.

After conferring with his friends in the Senate and House, Mr. Coombs has come to the conclusion that Congress is really trying to draft a rate law that will stand in the courts, and at the same time provide a large measure of popular relief. In explaining the situation as he finds it, Mr. Coombs said:

"The undisputed tendency of the great trunk lines of roads that span the continent toward consolidation of interests in a few hands, either by actual merger or control of stock has seriously alarmed even the most conservative.

"It is barely possible that there are constitutional prohibitions which will prevent effective legislation, but we must make the honest trial.

"The natural suggestion is government ownership and operation of roads. The aggressions of the roads may create such a public sentiment as will force its consideration by the government. There is another remedy, far better than government ownership and operation.

"It is possible to create new physical conditions which will either check or dominate those now in existence and restore to the people a large amount of competition with resorting to the perilous plan of government operation of roads viz; the building of a great national highway across the continent. The Panama Canal seems to furnish an object lesson that it may be worth while to consider. It has been considered proper and legitimate for any state or for the general government to construct canals in the aid of commerce.

If it is legitimate for the government to construct a waterway through land in aid of commerce, through which any citizen or company can, upon paying toll and complying with strict regulations convey his or its barges, is it not just as legitimate and feasible for it to construct a steel way over land, upon which any railroad company, new or old; any corporation or private individual, can convey a car or train of cars to the desired market?

"Such a road or roads would stop the absorption of local lines into the great systems, for as soon as they reached the main line they would have the use of the public way at reasonable rates to the great markets.

"Such roads in the hands of the government would be powerful weapons for regulating commerce between the states and open up privileges equal to all."

Vote for J. W. Crawford for county recorder.

A Fit Man.

George W. Smith, candidate for county commissioner is receiving only words of praise all over the county. His honesty as a man, his loyalty to his friends, his fair dealing with his customers, insures his nomination and election.

Mr. Smith's friends are making a clean, open and honorable fight. This is the kind of fight that wins the respect of all respectable citizens, and draws them to him.

George Smith has made none, and will not make any promises or promises in which the janitorship at the court house, ferryman, or any other place within the appointing power of

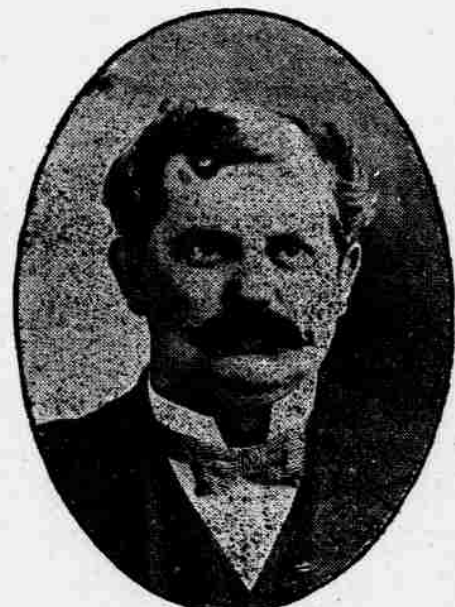
er, either before or after the primaries is involved.

George W. Smith will carry Corvallis practically unanimously. He will be proud of his large majority at the primaries today.

Reports indicate that George W. Smith will carry with a big majority in the entire western part of county.

Mr. Smith says: "I am running on my merits as a man, and not on the mistakes or demerits of any candidate. If I cannot be nominated without resorting to innuendo, mud-slinging, abuse, or pulling down the good name and character of any man, I prefer defeat to success. If not nominated for the office of commissioner by the republicans, you may be assured of my support for the man they name for this office. I expect no less of my opponent."

Republican Candidate for State Treasurer.



JUDGE THOS. J. RYAN
Of Oregon City

Who promises that he will apply business principles to the conducting of the office of the state treasurer and pledges himself to pay all interest on the State's money into the State Treasury, thus reducing taxes in Oregon at least \$20,000 per annum. He who has the interest of Oregon at heart will cast his vote for him on April 24th.



WILLIS S. DUNIWAY
Candidate For State Printer

At Republican Primary, April 20, 1906 "The State Printer should avoid unnecessary expenditures and give a square deal to taxpayers. Political manipulators have no business to engage in exploiting the office and no right to a division of its emoluments. I pledge an economical, business-like administration."—Willis S. Duniway.

"Mr. Duniway is a brainy man, a broad man, an upright man, a clean man."—Salem Statesman.

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