

# The Forest Grove Express

AN INDEPENDENT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Vol. 3

FOREST GROVE, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1918

No. 30

## AGED COUPLE BURN TO DEATH

Two of Washington county's best-known residents met terrible deaths between 9 and 10 o'clock last Tuesday evening, two miles southwest of Dilley, when their auto upset, caught fire and cremated Mr and Mrs. Simon Wahl, residents of Scoggins Valley district.

Mr. and Mrs. Wahl, their son, Alex, and Mrs. Wahl's sister, Mrs. Susie Reile, were returning to their home in a Ford car and when they got a short distance south of Dilley the electric lights failed them and Mr. Wahl lighted the kerosene sidelights and continued the journey by their feeble light. When the machine got on the newly-made fill between Reed and Kay hills, two miles the other side of Dilley, it ran off the grade and tumbled down a ten-foot embankment, pinning Mr. and Mrs. Wahl underneath.

Alex and his aunt were not caught under the machine, but the latter was painfully bruised. The young man at once began trying to extricate his father and mother, but was unable to lift the car and pull them out and they seemed unable to help themselves. While he was trying to get his parents out, the gasoline tank caught fire, exploded and drove him from his labors. In a short time both his parents were cremated and so terribly disfigured that they were unrecognizable when help was secured and the bodies brought to this city. All the woodwork on the car was consumed by the flames and the iron work was badly damaged.

Simon Wahl was born in Pennsylvania and was 64 years of age, while his wife was born near Salem, this state, 52 years ago. She was a sister to Senator LaFollett of Salem. Perry LaFollett and Charles LaFollett of near Cornelius and Mrs. H. W. Scott of Cherry Grove. Mr. and Mrs. Wahl have lived in Scoggins Valley for the past thirty years and they have hundreds of friends throughout Washington county who will be painfully surprised to learn of their sad ending.

They are survived by one daughter and six sons—Mrs. Lavina Herrington of Scoggins Valley, Hugh, Henry and Eugene, living three miles north of this city, Alex, Arthur and Charles, living at the home place.

Mr. Wahl is also survived by two sisters and two brothers—Mrs. Lavina Moore of New Jersey and Mrs. Lizzie Buck of Moulton, Ill., and Harden and Fayette Wahl of Idaho.

Funeral services were held at the local M. E. church at 2 o'clock this afternoon, with Rev. Hayes, an Episcopalian minister from Portland, officiating. Interment was in Forest View cemetery and the funeral was largely attended by friends of the afflicted family.

The double tragedy is a fearful blow to the relatives of the unfortunate couple, especially the son, Alex, who saw his parents die, without being able to save them.

Corporal Frank Porter, who is now stationed at Fort Douglas, Utah, writes his mother, Mrs. Mary Porter, that he never saw or felt heat like he is feeling it now. He is guard at an internment camp and is putting in some pretty long shifts.

The Express is running Sergeant Empey's story, "Over the Top," and the moving pictures of the story will be seen at the Star Theater on Wednesday and Thursday nights of next week. See these pictures and read the story.

## Want Figures on Wheat Production

Methods whereby Washington county's wheat production can be accurately determined have been decided upon and blank record books and report blanks have been furnished by the U. S. Bureau of Markets.

These have been distributed to the 45 threshermen in the county, who will be required to keep accurate data as to number of bushels threshed for each farmer, and at the end of each month they will be required to send in reports to the County Agricultural Agent, showing threshing done for that month. The County Agent, in turn, will wire total for each month to the Bureau of Markets, at Washington, D. C. In this way accurate data as to Washington county's wheat production will be obtained, as well as data on this crop for the whole country.

Data will also be obtained as to amount of other cereals threshed, but only seasonal reports will be made of these grains and not monthly reports, as are required of wheat.

COUNTY AGENT.

## May Have Seed Certified

Arrangements have been made whereby growers of potatoes desiring to produce seed potatoes may have fields inspected, and if shown to be free from disease commonly known to this section, may be certified. The fields will be inspected twice during the growing season and thirty days after harvest the potatoes will be inspected the third time.

The farmers in Benton county last year received \$2.50 per hundred at time of digging for potatoes thus certified and many others are planning to take up this method of seed improvement this year.

The inspection costs \$3.00 per acre and is done by the Agricultural College.

Blanks for making application for inspection can be obtained from the County Agricultural Agent's office and Oregon Agricultural College.

COUNTY AGENT.

Carl Curtis, who went to Camp Lewis with the Washington county Hun Seekers on the 24th, returned home Saturday, rejected on account of poor teeth. When he tried to enlist in the navy several months ago he passed on teeth, but was rejected on defective underpinning. The army officers said nothing about his feet, but were, evidently, afraid he couldn't bite the Huns.

A Forest Grove man, who had been bothered by his neighbor's chickens, recently caught two, attached to their necks cards bearing this inscription: "I am a bad chicken; keep me at home." Not hearing anything from the owner, he finally asked about the messages and was informed the chickens must have destroyed them, as the owner never received them. Just the way notes sent home by teacher fail to arrive.

Lowell, the six-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Lepschat, passed away at the family home in this city Tuesday morning, heart failure being the cause of death. Services were held in the Christian church at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Rev. Sias officiating. Interment was in the Banks cemetery.

A party of Sumawa Camp Fire Girls, composed of Margaret Taylor, Ethel Tupper, Arlington Marsh, Aileen Hoffman and Guardian Lucile Higby left today for Twin Rocks, on Tillamook beach, for a two weeks' outing. Miss Ruth Patton will join the girls later.

Elmer May and family arrived yesterday from Pasco, Wash., for a visit with the Morris and Good families.

## NOTES AND PERSONALS

Where, oh, where is the municipal flag?

Miss Gladys Porter has just recovered from a siege with the measles.

Mrs. A. A. Hall and daughter, Pearl, returned Saturday from a visit at Seaside.

We deliver ice cream to any part of the city. Tell it to phone 632. Otlice Shearer. 26-tf

Earl Wagner, late of the Schultz market, is now employed at the Rexall drug store.

Order your winter's supply of coal now of the Forest Grove Planing Mill; phone 0232. 30-tf

P. W. Watkins Tuesday replaced a defective length in the city water line up Gales Creek.

Robert Forbis, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Forbis of Dilley, has enlisted in the marine corps.

Just what you have been looking for—Ladies' White Canvas Oxfords. A. G. Hoffman & Co.

Mrs. James Devlin and daughter, Mrs. W. W. Graham, returned Sunday from a visit at Newport.

For Sale—Span of gray mares, 5 and 8 years old; 1400 lbs. each; also harness. Phone, West 51

Cornelius Richardson is driving a new Chevrolet, having decided to get in before the raise in price.

Orval Hutchens of Scofield was in town yesterday to attend the funeral of the little Lepschat boy.

We are now prepared to supply all comers with apple and peach boxes. Forest Grove Planing Mill Co. 30-lf

Mrs. E. F. Burlingham and children are enjoying an outing at Twin Rocks, on the Tillamook beach.

Special—For this week only—One-pound package of linen writing paper for 39c. VanKoughnet & Reder. It

Mr. and Mrs. Carmel Good and two children and Mrs. W. J. Good visited at the Jim Nichols place, north of town, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Morris of this city and Mrs. E. J. McAlear of Hillsboro motored up to Soda Springs Sunday.

Mrs. V. R. Abraham and children returned yesterday to their home at Hood River, after a visit at the ancestral Templeton home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Jones and daughter, Christie of Salem, visited their daughter and sister, Nettie, in this city over Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Buxton, their daughter, Jessie, Miss Vera Schiffer and Will Harrison visited the Austin Buxton family at Mollala Sunday.

Prof. F. C. Taylor returned Monday from a short visit to Rockaway and other beach points. He reports all the sawmills busy and quite a number of campers on the beach.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McCoy of the Kansas City district left this morning for a month's visit at Barview. They will be joined Monday by Mr. and Mrs. Will Baker and two sons.

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Mills were relieved Tuesday when they received a cablegram to the effect that their son, Lieut. Ralph I. Mills, with the 91st division, had reached France safely.

Joe Wiles and Dr. W. B. Coon, who took their better halves and Master Elwin Coon to Newport last Saturday, returned home Tuesday, leaving their families at the popular resort for an outing.

There will be a special meeting of the W. R. C. at the usual meeting place on Saturday, Aug. 3d, at 3 p. m., to arrange for transportation to the national encampment at Portland Aug. 19th to 24th.

## Will Test Ordinance

On complaint of J. G. Lenneville, chief of the fire department, Harry and Willis Goff, as Goff Brothers, were served with a complaint Saturday, charging them with violating a city ordinance by having an unlawful quantity of dynamite on his premises. Accompanied by Attorney L. M. Graham, defendants appeared before Recorder Dyke Tuesday and demurred to the complaint, claiming the dynamite was not on their "premises," but was on the sidewalk about 50 minutes, awaiting the arrival of the customer, who later took it to a county road gang, to be used in building roads. They further allege that dynamite of the grade complained of is not dangerous, unless a cap is attached and that neither life or property was endangered by having it on the sidewalk.

Recorder Dyke continued the case, in order to give the city an opportunity to secure legal advice on the merits of the case. Goff Brothers desire to have the ordinance tested, as they claim they are taking all precautions against danger to life and property and should not be prevented from supplying their customers with this necessary commodity.

## To Tell Strength of Various Sprays

Agricultural Experiment Station, Corvallis, July 30.—Many fruit and vegetable growers in Oregon have been the victims of firms which place on the market sprays low in copper and of uncertain quality at prices exorbitant in comparison with other commercial sprays or with the homemade article. H. P. Bars, plant pathologist for the Oregon Experiment Station, urges growers in the state to send for Farmers' Bulletin 994 on "Commercial Bordeaux Mixtures" which may be had for the asking from the United States department of agriculture.

## Want Help or a Job?

If there are any farmers or fruit growers in this section who need help, they may secure same by applying to R. W. Reder, secretary of the Forest Grove Commercial club Phone 751.

Men, women and children who desire work on the farms or in the orchards are also invited to register with Mr. Reder. There is no charge for this service, only a desire to get the work and workers together, in order that food may be saved for the nation and its overseas forces.

Tuesday afternoon George Jackson, drug clerk at the Little Pharmacy, got himself into an expensive mess by trying to accommodate somebody. Dr. Tucker had left his auto parked in front of the McNutt Grocery and when a driver for Dan Pierce wanted to back in with a load of flour, the auto was in the way. George volunteered to move the auto and, instead of backing up, as he thought it would, the pesky machine went forward, climbed the curb and broke two plate glass windows in the drug store, besides bending the axle and fender of the car. George says before he attempts to accommodate anybody hereafter, he will be sure he knows what he is doing. On the same day Mrs. Robert Alexander's car tried to enter the front door of the Forest Grove National bank, but was stopped by the fire hydrant. Very little damage.

W. J. R. Beach, past commander of the G. A. R., department of Oregon, attended a meeting Saturday at Portland of the Illinois Veterans Association. This organization is arranging to maintain a headquarters tent on the postoffice block during the G. A. R. national encampment August 19th to 24th.

## BAD CONVICTS STILL AT LARGE

Bennett Thompson, serving a life sentence for murdering Mrs. Helen Gore Jennings of Tualatin and Fred Ristman, a jitney driver, on the night of May 15, 1916, accompanied by Fred Thurber, a burglar, escaped from the state penitentiary at Salem Monday night and were seen Tuesday at Malloy, near the scene of the Jennings murder. It is believed Thompson and Thurber are heavily armed, as a hardware store at Salem was robbed of revolvers and ammunition Monday night. While in the Washington county jail for the Jennings murder, Thompson threatened that if he ever got out he would kill Sheriff Reeves and District Attorney E. B. Tongue and many people believe this is the reason for Thompson's return to this section.

Sheriff Alexander of this county and Sheriff Hurlburt of Multnomah county have armed forces searching for the fugitives, but so far without success.

## Not Much Encouragement

President Hoffman and Secretary Reder of the Forest Grove Commercial club were in Portland yesterday and interviewed John M. Scott, general passenger agent for the Southern Pacific lines in regard to commutation rates for people living in this city and employed in Portland. Mr. Scott informed them that Uncle Sam's railway officials were opposed to cutting rates, except to soldiers and sailors, but he would take up the question with the proper officials and do what he could to get a reasonable rate.

## Exciting Training

Writing to his mother from Post Field, Fort Sill, Okl., Mark Hogue tells some interesting facts in connection with his training as a flyer in Uncle Sam's aerial squadrons. He describes quite minutely the duties of a pilot carrying an artillery observer, but the Express does not believe the details should be published, for the Huns still have ways of sending information abroad. Mark likes the work immensely, for he says it is exciting. He has two weeks more at Ft. Sill, then goes for two weeks of Aerial Gunnery at Hicks, Texas, then two weeks of gunnery at Dayton, Ohio, then the fight to the finish over the deep blue water.

## To Teach Useful Lessons

Manager Jonas of the Washington County Fair board informs the Express that one of the outstanding features of the coming fair will be a food conservation exhibit, under direction of County Food Administrator Wells of Hillsboro. The premium list, which will be out in a few days, will give full information as to plans and prizes.

J. E. Lewton spent Sunday with his family near this city. Mr. Lewton has been doing Y. M. C. A. work at Raymond, Wash., but now has been selected to go to Camp Lewis. He likes his work fine and has gained ten pounds. He expects later to go to France.

Because their mother had made such strong appeals in their behalf, George and Robert Cox, hailing from near Gaston, under indictment for burglary, may be permitted to enlist in the army, a Portland paper says.

Dandelions are an effective bait for poisoning the pocket gopher, the most dreaded by Willamette valley farmers, according to G. F. Sykes, professor of zoology in the Oregon Agricultural College.

Jim McGill, who works for Uncle Sam at the North Bank depot, Portland, is spending a two-day vacation with his wife in this city.

Oregon Historical Society  
Public Archival