

Gateway to the Oregon Caves

ILLINOIS VALLEY NEWS

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Death Of Bob Fleming Leaves Dynamite Mystery

Robert Fleming, 82 year old miner of Brownstown on the Alt-house, died in the Josephine General hospital at 7 a. m. Saturday, reputedly a suicide, and the true facts or reasons behind a bizarre dynamite explosion which nearly killed him and Mayor Elwood Hussey of Cave Junction the day before probably died with him. Investigators said foot prints in the dust on a fourth story fire escape of the Redwoods hotel, where Fleming was staying, indicated that the one-time Alaska sourdough had leaped to his death.

According to Sheriff Loyd Lewis, a telephone call was received from Mayor Hussey at 4:30 p. m. Friday, asking for an investigation of what he considered an attempt on his life. Hussey told the sheriff that he had picked Fleming up at his cabin as he was driving from his mine down to Holland. The old miner liked to walk for exercise, but the steep hills were a little too much for him; it was his custom to ride to the top of a hill about two miles from his cabin and walk back. He had a package, which he laid on the seat between them.

Hussey stated that Fleming lit his pipe with a cigarette lighter and dropped his hand with the still flaming lighter toward the seat. Hussey said he shouted "Look out Bob, you'll set the car on fire." Still later, Hussey said, Fleming dropped his hand to the seat and in a moment Hussey heard a hissing sound. Hussey said he grabbed the package and tossed it out the window where it exploded almost immediately. Hussey told the sheriff that he was traveling about 20 miles an hour and was about 40 feet beyond the scene of the explosion when earth showered on the car from its force. Sheriff Lewis said investigation of the site by county officers showed the explosion had occurred about 25 feet down the embankment from the road.

Hussey said he then drove Fleming to within three-quarters of a mile from his cabin and let him out, after which he drove to Holland and called the sheriff.

The sheriff said he went to Fleming's cabin at the mouth of Tarter gulch where the old man lived alone and acquainted him with Hussey's story.

The 82-year-old man calmly replied, "Well, now, why did he want to plant that on me?" Told by the sheriff that an investigation would be necessary, Fleming volunteered to accompany him to Grants Pass. He maintained a room at the Redwoods hotel. As there had been no warrant for Fleming's arrest and the matter was merely under investigation, he was left at the hotel by the sheriff Friday evening.

Fleming was found at 6:12 a. m. Saturday in the alley north of the hotel by a police officer. His condition was first ascribed to a heart attack, but it was later determined that his chest had been crushed and his leg broken. After investigation at the hotel, officers concluded that he had leaped to the pavement from the fourth floor. Fleming died in the hospital an hour after he was found without regaining consciousness.

According to the sheriff, his investigation revealed no ill feeling between Fleming and Hussey. Fleming had sold a mining claim to Hussey about a year ago, and he retained other claims in the district which he considered had at least potential value.

An inquest into Fleming's death was planned for 10 a. m. today (Thursday).

High School P. T. A. To Meet Next Wednesday

There will be a high school P. T. A. organizational meeting Wednesday, June 7, at the I.V.H.S. library at 8 p. m. Bylaws will be submitted to the organization and an election of officers will take place. Parents and citizens who are interested in our schools are urged to attend.

Muriel Collman received minor injuries Saturday when she tripped and fell on some concrete steps. She was rushing out with a pan of cookies for the Garden club. Says Muriel: "I saved the cookies."

Bank of Illinois Valley Now In Federal Reserve

S. Clifford Sparks, manager of the Bank of Illinois Valley, received a call Wednesday morning from Mr. Galvin, chief examiner for the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, advising that the Valley bank's application for affiliation with the Federal Reserve system had been approved. Although, in view of previous commitments, Federal Reserve approval had been considered a foregone conclusion after acceptance by the Federal Depositors Insurance corporation, Mr. Galvin's call made affiliation an accomplished fact. Sparks pointed out that with Federal depositors' insurance and Federal Reserve backing, the Bank of Illinois Valley is not only as solid as any in the country, but will also be in line for many important services from these organizations which might otherwise impose a heavy expense.

Work on the fixtures and interior of the bank's space is proceeding at a good clip, and plans for the vault are in the hands of four different contractors who have expressed interest in submitting bids.

New Aerie at Cave Junction

The Fraternal Order of Eagles instituted a new Aerie at Cave Junction May 28, 1950, with 57 charter applicants. A. Warren Jones, past state president, of Newberg, Oregon, acted as instituting officer. D. H. Lloyd of Selma was organizer, assisted by R. J. Browns, president of Cavanaugh Aerie of Grants Pass.

The officers and drill team of Cavanaugh Aerie assisted in the institution and initiation of the candidates.

The members of the new Aerie selected "Oregon Caves" as the name for their Aerie. Meetings will be held every Friday night at 8 o'clock. About forty more members are needed before the charter is closed, and the officers predicted they would secure them within two weeks.

The men of Illinois Valley 18 years or older should ask any of the officers or charter members for information on how to become a charter member of the order, and the advantages in becoming a member of the Eagles and what it will mean to the individual and the community.

Officers are: Jr. P.W.P., Olaf Nassen; W.P., Lester J. Tythcott; W.V.P., Glenn F. Perry; chaplain, George A. Kellert; secretary, Roy C. Evans; treasurer, Edwin N. Cooke; conductor, Aulton J. Huffman; inside G., James W. Campbell; outside G., Morgan L. Yarbrough; trustees, Charles R. Lemmon, Frank A. Behm, and Kenneth R. Deaton.

Public Urged To Attend School Meeting Tomorrow (Friday) Night At I.V.H.S.

All parents and citizens of the Valley who are interested in the schools are invited to attend a meeting at the high school in Cave Junction tomorrow night (Friday, June 2) at 8:30 p. m.

Purpose of the meeting will be to select a candidate for nomination to the Kerby sub-district school committee, which election will take place June 19.

Sponsors of the meeting point out that this is the only means of selecting one candidate in an equitable manner, and that a single candidate backed by the entire Valley is necessary. It is obvious that without a large turn-out and full scale participation by the whole Valley, the true intent and purpose of the meeting cannot be fulfilled. It was emphasized that everyone is invited to attend.

O'Brien P.T.A. Pie Supper and Square Dance Success

The P.T.A. sponsored pie supper and square dance held at O'Brien last Saturday night was well attended, according to reports.

The O'Brien P.T.A. also announced that the affair was quite successful from a financial standpoint. Proceeds will be used to purchase playground equipment for the O'Brien school.

COUGARS WINNERS OF J.D.J. LEAGUE TROPHY

(Photo by Magnuson)

First Row—left to right: Bob Parsons, Myron Crowl, Monty Hunt, Doug Holly, Ed Radcliffe, Don Preston. Second row: Lester Sweetin (manager), Ron Mauser, Clarence Lewis, John Lovejoy, Paul Wieler, Gerald Miller, Leslie Martin, Doss McEntire, Don Campbell (manager). Third Row: Coach Wes Peters, Doug Hoskins, Stanley Campbell, Jack Yandell, Buddy Kaufman, Jack Cooke, Jim Walden.

The season's record of games, which brought the coveted JDJ trophy to the Illinois Valley, was as follows:

I.V.H.S. 3	Grants Pass 9
" 8	Central Point 5
" 23	Sutherlin 3
" 9	Eagle Point 5
" 9	Central Point 3
" 4	Eagle Point 2
" 3	Myrtle Creek 12
" 14	Myrtle Creek 10
" 16	Sutherlin 9

I.V.H.S. Graduation Rites Held This Evening

I.V.H.S. GRADUATION RITES TO BE HELD THIS EVENING

Glenda Robinson is valedictorian and Dorothy Warren salutatorian of the class of 1950, Illinois Valley High school, it was announced this week by Clarence Hagen, principal.

Graduation exercises will be held this evening, Thursday, June 1, beginning at eight p. m. in the high school gymnasium, with twenty-nine seniors receiving diplomas.

The program for the evening includes speeches by the valedictorian and salutatorian, invocation by Rev. D. B. Wantland and benediction by Rev. Raymond Cox. Dr. Elmo Stevenson, president of Southern Oregon College of Education, will deliver the address, "What Shall We Do Now?"

Presentations of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary awards are to be made by Art Kellert and Daisy Nassen. Bill Rauber, president, will present his 1950 class, and Myron Crowl, the class memorial.

Music for the evening is under the direction of Mrs. Margaret Ferris, whose Girls' Glee club will sing "My Dream is of an Island Place" and "Welcome, Sweet Springtime." Mrs. Ferris will also play the processional and recessional music.

Awarding of the diplomas will be made by Fred Varner, vice-chairman of the Josephine County District School Board. Those receiving them include Elsie Arnett, Bernice Black, Virginia Breazeale, George Burger, Myron Crowl, Robert Ford, Keith Haggard, Doris Hall, Douglas Holly, Guy Hunt, Marlene Kaiser, Fred Krauss, John Lovejoy, Buster Martin, Louise Merrill, Deete Mickey, Barbara Miller, Gerald Miller, Stanley Nations, Glenn Overstreet, Mildred Prentice, Ed Radcliffe, Bill Rauber, Glenda Robinson, Geraldine Scholz, Clifford Sowell, Dorothy Warren, Roy Weaver and Marilyn Wurn.

New Chain Saw Agency Opens In Cave Junction

A store and service shop featuring McCulloch chain saws opened in the NEWS building in Cave Junction today (Thursday).

Manager of the enterprise is Merv Hogan, who has been handling and servicing McCulloch saws in Grants Pass.

Robinson of Kerby are among the 1952 seniors and graduate students to receive degrees at the eighty-first annual commencement here June 5. Saturday June 3 is alumni day while the baccalaureate will be held Sunday June 4, with Dr. D. V. Poling, famous eastern minister and author.

SALUTATORIAN

Dorothy Warren

VALEDICTORIAN

Glenda Robinson

Accident Prevention Talk And Movies Tuesday Night

Glenn Morrison Post 70, American Legion, will bring to the Illinois Valley High school a speaker, with motion pictures, at 8:30 p. m., Tuesday June 6. Turn out and bring the family and your neighbors; it's free.

Henry G. Rogers of Salem will talk on the subject of accident prevention in the woods and sawmills, with motion pictures showing what to do and what not to do. The Legion promised to get a turn-out of 200 woods and saw-mill workers for this meeting, in order to secure the best speaker in Oregon on this subject.

The state Industrial Accident commission is assisting the Legion in providing this special feature. Get behind it; you can help prevent accidents, and you may save a life.

J. W. Englands Lose Home In Night Fire

Saturday May 27, at approximately 11 p. m., the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. England was burned to the ground. Mrs. England awakened at that time and saw flames on the outside wall of the stairway. She and Mr. England hurriedly called the children and got them safely out of the house. A few minutes later the roof caved in and they were unable to save anything but the washing machine. Mr. England suffered arm burns in attempting to save some of the household effects. Tyler and Nealy and other kind neighbors built the family a tent house for temporary quarters. Art Drews put in a water pump and Ed Knippel wired the tent.

KERBY NEWS

(By Mrs. Floyd Breedlove)

Mrs. Jess Taylor returned last Friday from a six weeks' visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed F. Elton, of Lunah, Texas. She also visited a daughter in Phoenix, Arizona.

Kerby welcomes the March family, which has recently moved here from Hermit, Calif. The family is musically inclined, and will be a nice addition to the Kerby Church.

Earl Eugene Brown of Cave Junction and Pauline Blanche

I.V.H.S. NEWS

I.V.H.S. RECEIVES TROPHY

(By Ruth Smith)

Tuesday, May 23, the Illinois Valley nine travelled to Sutherlin to defeat the Loggers 16-9 to win the JDJ league baseball trophy.

On Friday evening after the program of the Senior Class night Bill Rauber, program announcer, introduced Wesley Peters who introduced his baseball team. After the seniors had retired, Mr. Peters again called his boys up on the stage where he presented the beautiful trophy to Guy Hunt and Doug Holly, co-captains of the team. (The trophy stands 14 inches high and has a statuette of a pitcher who has just delivered a pitched ball. Inscribed in the front on a little gold plate is "JDJ Champions 1950"). The captains in turn presented it to Doris Hall, retiring student body president. After this, head yell-leader Kathy Love and the three yell leaders gave a yell for the boys and the coach. "Accomplishments of the Team" was read by Ruthie Smith and a poem, written by Betty Tibbs, was read by Lorraine Mellow.

After these two recitations, the yell leaders concluded the program with two more yells. One for the boys and one for Coach Peters. Everyone then went into the hall where the trophy was placed in the trophy case.

SENIOR CLASS NIGHT

(By Bernice Black)

Senior class night was held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 26, at 8:30 p. m. Bill Rauber, class president, was the master-of-ceremonies for the evening.

The assembly was opened with the class song written by Glenn Overstreet and Stanley Nations. Louise Merrill read the class history, which recalled to the class many things from the past four years.

The Barber Shop trio sang "By the Light of the Silvery Moon" and "You Had a Dream Dear." Following this Dorothy Warren read the class prophecy.

As a little surprise the Stinko trio, Doris Hall, Myron Crowl and Bill Rauber sang "Honky Tonky."

Next on the list was the class poem written and read by Clifford Sowell. This preceded "When You Wore a Tulip" by the Barber Shop trio. Bill Rauber, George Burger, Ed Radcliffe and Glenn Overstreet sang a parody on all senior class members, written by Stanley Nations to the tune of "Strawberry Roan." Doris Hall read the class will.

Bill Rauber, senior class president, presented the trowel with the senior class colors on it to Buddy Kaufman, junior class president. The trowel is to be passed in this manner from year to year. Each senior class will add its colors. It symbolizes the honor of being the succeeding senior class and the traditional carrying-on and exemplification of good citizenship.

Mr. Peters, the coach, introduced the baseball boys and told a little about each one. Doug Holly, Mr. Pope and Mr. Hagen talked about the team and its achievements.

Bill Rauber spoke about the seniors, after which they left the gymnasium singing the class song.

PICNIC GROUNDS SELECTED

The annual school picnic Friday, June 2, will be held at the Cavanaugh's park in Grants Pass.

The location was selected by a committee consisting of Doris Hall, student body president, Delores Campbell, student body president next year, and Mr. Hagen.

This site was selected from suggestions from the student body. The students will bring their own potluck lunches. Ice cream and punch will be served and paid for by the student body.

This event will mark the closing of the 1949-50 school year.

PLAYDAY

(By Sharon Benge)

The playday held May 26, and sponsored by the G.A.A. was enjoyed by all who attended.

(Continued on page 5)