



AUTO LEAPS INTO RIVER

ONE LIFE IS LOST IN ACCIDENT AT BULLARDS FERRY SUNDAY NIGHT

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Axtell and Two Children Plunged Into Icy Water as Car Was Being Driven Onto Ferry—Heel Presses Throttle and Car Leaps Forward.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Axtell and two little daughters, Anita and Dorothy, riding in a six-cylinder Studebaker automobile, plunged into the icy waters of the Coquille river at Bullards ferry at about 5 o'clock Sunday evening. The accident caused the death of one of the children, Anita, who was six years old, the rest of the family being rescued by Ferryman Wilson assisted by several others.

Mr. Axtell was driving from Camp Day, the mining camp owned by Dr. David T. Day at Whiskey Run, of which Mr. Axtell is superintendent, to Bandon. When driving onto the ferry at the north side of the river and while pressing his foot down on to one of the levers, came in contact to one of the levers, the heel of his shoe came in contact with the foot throttle. The car suddenly sprang forth and before it could be halted had dashed across the ferry, snapped the chain guard in two, and plunged into the river. The water was about 24 feet deep and the car quickly settled down and completely disappeared.

After several moments Mrs. Axtell, clutching the four-year-old child whom she had been holding on her lap, came to the surface. Their clothing kept them afloat while the swift outgoing tide carried them down the stream until Mr. Wilson in a power boat came to the rescue. In the meantime Mr. Axtell came to the surface. He swam enough to keep afloat until the rescue boat reached him. The current was so swift that it would probably have been impossible for any of them to have reached shore without assistance.

There was a top on the car and the four occupants were in one seat which made it difficult for them to get out while under the water. The six-year-old child, who lost her life, apparently clutched the steering wheel and hung on. Her little hands were still fast when the car was raised and her body was removed. Eye witnesses say that when the smaller girl came to the surface with her mother, she struck out to swim and was paddling bravely when rescued, although the mother had not let go of her.

Captain Robert Johnson and members of the Coast Guard crew went to the scene as soon as word reached here. They made the trip in the power boat. The crew, assisted by men from Bullards, and Prosper, succeeded in raising the submerged car after attempts by the crew of the Steamer May and others who had previously worked more than an hour in attempting to bring the machine to the surface.

The body of the child was brought to Bandon and a private burial was held Tuesday.

Mr. Axtell states that the automobile with which the accident happened was somewhat defective in the foot levers. It had been driven to Bandon from Washington, D. C., and had not since been overhauled.

GERMANS FEAR NEGROES

Marshfield Soldier Writes of Closing Days of War.

MARSHFIELD, Ore., — Curious things came out of the war zone. Sergeant Will Goodrum, writing from the front the day after the armistice was signed, said his company came back with German prisoners, many of whom spoke good English and had been born in America. The Germans have a saying that the English fight for greed, the French for their lives and the Americans for souvenirs, which latter, Mr. Goodrum says, is partially true. In the fighting of the last few days Mr. Goodrum's company was in reserve behind negro troops. He says the Germans prefer to see anybody save colored men coming. The Germans thought the United States colored troops were Algerians dressed in American uniforms and made fast work in getting out of their way. The Germans generally understand that Algerians make no prisoners and don't understand the meaning of "Kamerade."

MORE THAN THOUSAND

The Red Cross Roll Call in Bandon district has been answered by more than a thousand, according to Miss Rodgers, local chairman. This is considered a very good showing in view of the fact that children have not been solicited. The list is not yet complete so it has not been submitted for publication. It is thought there are still some who have not been reached. In order to give them an opportunity to sign up, the Roll will be left open for signatures until January 1. Anyone wishing to sign is requested to call at the Morrison millinery store, which is headquarters.

30,000 SOLDIERS NOW LEAVING ARMY DAILY
General March Reports 188,562 Discharged in Week—Work Proceeds Steadily

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Demobilization of the home military forces at the rate of 30,000 a day, the goal set a month ago by the War Department, has been reached if not exceeded.

General March, chief of staff, announced today that demobilization at the home camps during the seven days' period ending December 14 was at an average of 27,000 a day, although no men were discharged from most of the camps on Sunday.

Total demobilization on December 14 had reached 29,903 officers and 188,562 men. The chief of staff said more than 900,000 men have been assigned for early demobilization, including 21,000 divisional troops, 43,000 engineers and 16,000 men of military aeronautics division.

Many Prisoners Repatriated.
General March made public a report from General Pershing under date of December 15, saying at that time a total of 3210 American officers and men, taken prisoners by the enemy, had been released and that only a few Americans in isolated camps remained prisoners. Red Cross workers, allied and neutral agents, the report said, are now searching for the few Americans still held prisoner.

Every effort is being made to arrange for the delivery of mail consigned to units which have been designated for early return, the chief of staff said. In cases where a majority of the members of any unit have been ordered home the mail is held in the United States until the organization arrives and a report is made on the men left in France. The mail addressed to these men then is sorted out and sent across.

Mail Service Hampered
General March discloses the fact that the communication facilities with the American forces in Russia, particularly in the Archangel area, have been very unsatisfactory. The War Department itself has had difficulty in communicating important military instructions to the command and only meager dispatches have come through to this end.

General March said coast artillery units which were being used for Army and corps artillery are all being returned to this country, but those which were serving as divisional artillery probably will stay abroad for some time.

ASSEMBLY PLANS

Republicans Have Big Majority in State Body.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 20.—The Legislature of Oregon will convene on January 13, 1919, for a session to last not more than 40 days. The governor is privileged to call a special session of not to exceed 20 days, at any time within the biennial period, but this has seldom been done in the history of the state.

Little legislation of importance has been forecast for the coming session, and nothing of a partisan nature can well raise an issue. Seventy-nine republicans, nine democrats and two independents will make up the legislature. Prohibition will not be an issue, in any form, it is predicted.

With Oregon definitely in the bone dry column, the ratification of the federal prohibition amendment is expected to be made without a battle of any consequence.

A proposition to simplify the state government by doing away with a large number of offices and a re-grouping of the duties of others, is to be reported upon to the legislature by a committee appointed two years ago, and interest may center in the consideration of this plan, which, however, is not conceded to have much chance of adoption. The radical nature of the changes suggested and the large number of office holders affected will work hard against its chances of success, according to political prophets.

May the New Year bring you happiness and prosperity in abundance.

---WESTERN WORLD

HUSBAND FOLLOWS WIFE TO THE GRAVE

Mat Lux Succumbs to Spanish Influenza at Marshfield—Wife Was Buried Here Last Week.

Mathias Lux, Jr., whose wife was buried here last week as a result of the Spanish influenza, himself succumbed to the dreaded disease at his home in Marshfield Saturday night. He had been somewhat improved and was thought to have been out of danger when his condition became suddenly worse and he gradually sank. A five-months-old baby survives the parents.

The deceased was born at Elwood, Nebraska, January 30, 1894, being 24 years, 10 months and 21 days old at the time of death. He came to this community in 1912 and first resided with his brother, P. A. Lux, at Parkersburg. He was married here to Miss Bessie Jensen, a Bandon young lady, and they moved to the Jensen ranch near Denmark for a time. About two years ago they moved to Marshfield where Mr. Lux became engaged as porter at the Chandler hotel. Five months ago he quit his position to engage in more necessary war work, taking a job with the Coos Bay Shipbuilding Co. He was employed there until he became ill on December 17th.

Burial services were held at the Bandon cemetery at 11 a. m. on Tuesday, Rev. W. S. Smith, officiating.

The deceased is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Carl Haiker and Mrs. Alvan Harker of Elwood Neb., and by five brothers: P. A. Lux Parkersburg; John P. Lux, Portland; Oscar W. Lux, Lexington, Neb.; Harry M. Lux, in the Army; Sherman T. Lux, Montana.

WHISKEY CARGO IS DUMPED IN BAY

Crew of Steamer Daisy Jettisons Valuable Cargo when Officials Approach Ship.

Aberdeen, Wm., Dec. 20.—Sacks of whiskey by the score and countless loose bottles were hurled from the decks of the steam schooner Daisy in the lower bay this morning when the vessel was halted by the torpedoed Goldborough with officers of the law on board.

When the commander of the warship sang out to the skipper of the Daisy to stop a great commotion began on the coaster. The air was immediately full of flying sacks of bottled liquor. From all parts of the ship the rattle of bottles was heard and the heavy sacks were seen to clank the gunwales and splash into the water. The Goldborough lowered a cutter with its crew and the officers of the law. The sailors pulled hard to get close enough to seize one of the sacks, which floated the officers say, about two minutes before sinking. The pull in the choppy sea was too long, however, and none were recovered.

All hands worked like Trojans. Chief of Police Dean states: "I never saw so immense a shipment of liquor disposed of with such rapidity, from decks, fore and aft and even from the bridge. Grays Harbor never witnessed such a booze splash as that before."

The steamer Daisy was built in Bandon.

New Mining Operations

The Puncner Mining Co. is the name of a newly organized co-partnership that has begun mining operations on some new property at Cut creek, north of town. The men interested are R. G. Hamm and T. E. Hamm, recently of Glasgow, Montana, and C. V. Willoughby and Walter Redman, both of Bandon. They intend to operate a centrifugal pump and are now awaiting the arrival of a Ford engine to furnish the power. They are after gold and platinum.

LOCAL RANCHER DIES AT ALLEGANY

Jeff D. Tharp Succumbs to Heart Failure While En Route to Spend Christmas With Family.

Jeff Tharp, a well known rancher who for a number of years had resided on a place north of town along the Seven Devils road, died suddenly of heart failure Monday while en route to join his family near Allegany to spend Christmas.

Mr. Tharp's wife and three children have been residing near Allegany on a goat ranch which the family had recently purchased, while he had been conducting the place on the Seven Devils road. He was aboard the Cadillac, a Coos river boat, on his way to Allegany, when he took sick. The Coos Bay Times says:

"Mr. Tharp complained of feeling badly just as the boat landed, and the captain, who left the boat to get the mail at Allegany, returned with Mrs. Tharp, who came in from their ranch to meet her husband, they found Mr. Tharp dying. He lived but a short time after their arrival."

DEPLORABLE SHOWING MADE IN ARMY TESTS

State Teachers' Association Committee Proposes Plan to Remedy Conditions Shown.

University of Oregon, Eugene, Dec. 21.—The human race stands lowest in the whole animal kingdom in the matter of physical fitness, according to Thomas Wood and other authorities on the subject.

Facing this situation, the committee of physical preparedness of the Oregon State Teachers Association is preparing a report to be submitted at the meeting in Portland next week recommending a system of physical training and health inspection in the public schools to remedy conditions revealed by the Army tests made during the war.

"The conditions of health and physique among the American people are by no means reassuring," said Dr. B. W. DeBusk, professor of secondary education in the university and a member of the committee. "It is estimated that not more than 50 per cent of the high school boys in the United States could pass the physical examination for entrance to the United States Army."

It is shown in Government reports that approximately 50 per cent of the causes for rejection of men from the Army would have yielded rather easily to remedial measures in childhood.

CYCLONE HITS LANE COUNTY

Unusual Storm Leaves Ruin in Path. Coburg Center of Disturbance

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 20.—Lane county was visited by a mid-Western cyclone last night, a real "twister" that tore trees off close to the ground, smashed windows and left ruin along its entire path.

The storm struck between 8:30 and 9 o'clock in the evening and was accompanied by a heavy rain. Coburg, nine miles east of this city, was apparently the storm center, and here the cyclone could be heard approaching several minutes before it hit. It swept a clear path the entire length of the main street of the town, snapping off telephone and electric light poles and carrying away everything loose, but did but little damage to the buildings on either side.

The cyclone also struck at Santa Clara, just outside of Eugene, and did considerable damage. Trees 24 inches in diameter were twisted off. In the home of one dairyman in that section every window was broken.

Seventy-five hundredths of one inch of rain, the heaviest in precipitation during a like period recorded here this year fell during the storm.

FLU BAN LIFTED

City Health Officer Dr. R. V. Leep today removed the influenza ban in Bandon and all places of amusement are in full swing again. According to the state health board instructions the ban can be lifted but individual cases must be isolated in families in which they occur. Other members of the family are allowed to come and go but not to come in contact with the patient. The attendants must wear a mask when in the room with the patient.

BOOKS NEEDED FOR MEN IN HOSPITALS

Every Public Library is Receiving Station For Gifts of Reading Matter.

There are tens of thousands of wounded men in our army hospitals and every returning transport and hospital ship brings more thousands. Many of these men will be in hospitals for months, some of them for a year or more, before they are sufficiently recovered to be discharged from the army.

"These men need books. They need books more than they need almost anything else except surgical care and nursing."

Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, who is General Director of the Library War Service of the American Library Association, thus directs attention to an opportunity for service that is open to everyone. For the books that are needed for our men in hospitals and those in camps awaiting demobilization are the books that are on the book shelves of almost every American home.

What these men need in reading matter is good current fiction," said Dr. Putnam. "The American Library Association has supplied and is supplying technical and educational books by the thousands to meet the insistent demands of our men in uniform for that class of reading matter. These books have to be bought, and almost all of the funds available for the Associations Library War Service are required for the maintenance of the service."

"For fiction and general literature we have to depend largely on gifts from the public. Since last spring more than three million gift books have been placed in the hands of our soldiers and sailors. Books wear out, and these books have been widely scattered among the camps on this side and overseas, so now we have no reserve supply of good fiction to draw on for the pressing need of the moment, which is in the hospitals and the demobilization camps."

"Every good recent book that can be spared from anyone's personal book shelf will find its way quickly into the hands of some soldier or sailor who needs mental relaxation and recreation if it is taken or sent at once to the nearest public library. Every public library in the United States is a receiving station for Library War Service and books received are forwarded as speedily as possible to the hospitals and demobilization camps."

"There is no better way to make a Christmas gift to the men who have been wounded in our service than to give books."

COLLEGE AIDS S. A. T. C. MEN

O. A. C. Corvallis, Dec. 23.—Special preparatory courses will be offered, this year only, to students' army training corps men at the College who are lacking in the necessary qualifications in English, mathematics, physics, and elementary chemistry, to enter upon degree courses. All who have enough high school work to enable them to enter a degree course, as shown by their scholarship at the College, will be allowed to do so, even though a little short of the number of credits required. For those who wish to prepare for vocations special courses in agriculture, commerce, engineering, and pharmacy will be provided. In view of the unexpected end of the war and the training for it, the College is doing its utmost to provide work for those who must make their way in whole or in part.

Married at Prosper

The marriage of Private Gustav H. Johnson, who is stationed at the Prosper mill, and Miss Katherine Whitt of Prosper, took place at the home of Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Reese, Monday, December 23d. Rev. Reese officiating. They will make their home at Prosper.

Dies at Prosper

"Grandma" Young, mother of Mrs. Still of Prosper, died at Prosper Tuesday evening. The funeral was held this morning. No particulars have been obtained.

PORT TO GET FEDERAL AID

RIVERS AND HARBORS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROPRIATION TO CONGRESS

Project Outlined by the Port of Bandon Involves Expenditure of \$120,000 in Deepening Mouth of River 200 Feet Wide to 13 Feet at Low Water.

A project that will involve the expenditure of \$128,000 towards the improvement of the Coquille river bar is in store for the Port of Bandon. This amount was included in recommendations of the Congressional Rivers and Harbors committee to Congress the past week. It is altogether probable that the committee's recommendations will be adopted.

The project calls for the deepening the channel between Breuer's dock and deep water outside, by blasting away the rocks to a width of 200 feet and a depth of 13 feet at low tide. According to government charts the bottom of the channel is solid rock with many projecting points that are a menace to navigation at some seasons of the year. However, since driving the piling for the Jetty work now under way it has been found that a hard pan exists which might be mistaken for solid rock. If the rock indicated on the charts should prove to be a hard pan the operations would be much more expensive, in which case still deeper water could be gotten on the bar for the money to be expended.

The cost of the project would as in all similar projects be divided equally between the Port and the Government, each appropriating \$64,000.

BROTHER CHASES BROTHER AT BAY

Stealing about the corners in pursuit of his brother who alleges he is crazy and who came here from San Francisco to look after him J. C. Steele today gave M. M. Steele a merry chase through the downtown streets, and he in turn was pursued by Chief of Police Carter.

Harmony has had no part in the relations of the two brothers since M. M. Steele arrived from San Francisco a few days ago to look after his brother, who was involved in several suits. Each brother fervently alleges the other is insane, but J. C. Steele seems to be able to strike fear into the heart of his brother and to make him hasten down opposite streets.

The last seen of M. M. Steele he was taking a street leading to the outskirts of town and shortly afterwards Chief Carter returned alone, so all was well.

Chas. I. Regard, who is J. C. Steele's attorney, has advised them both to come to some sort of an understanding and stop their foolish pursuing business.—Coos Bay Times.

Attends Sessions at Portland

Supt. L. W. Turnbull left Wednesday morning for Portland where he will attend the annual meeting of the Oregon State Teachers Association. Because of the prevalence of the influenza in various parts of the state, the President of the Association, Dr. H. R. Sheldon, of the University of Oregon, has decided that the general sessions and most of the department section will not meet this year. Only the City Superintendents Section and the Executive Council will meet. The latter is the small elective body which transacts all of the official business of the Association. A number of committees of this body are to report on proposed legislation to be brought up in the coming session of the state legislature. The superintendents section meet Saturday, and the Executive Council on Friday. The last committee meetings before the annual session are scheduled for Thursday.

WORLD HONOR ROLL

Geo. W. Gerber, Bandon.
F. M. Langlois, Myrtle Point.
Mildred Crain, Portland.
E. M. Neal, Bandon.
C. A. Anderson, Alaska.
W. W. Felter, Reedsport.
A. J. Macy, Bandon.
R. H. Rosa, Bandon.
H. C. Allen, Bandon.
Mrs. N. M. Davison, Bandon.
P. A. Lux, Bandon.