

The Weather

Prediction Fair
Maximum yesterday 92
Minimum today 50

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Weather Year Ago
Maximum 82
Minimum 57

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1925

NO. 141

DIRIGIBLE CRASHES IN STORM, 14 KILLED

SHENANDOAH BREAKS 3000 FEET IN AIR

Giant Airship Falls in Three Pieces Over Ohio Village—Commander Landsdowne and Score of Crew Killed and Injured—Gallant Heroism Fails Prevent Disaster.

CALDWELL, Ohio, Sept. 3.—(A. P.)—The giant dirigible Shenandoah is no more. It went down in three pieces here early today and killed its commander, Lieutenant Commander Zachary Lansdowne, and at least 12 of the officers and men making up her crew.

The airship struck a line squall—a variety of storm most feared by airmen—shortly after 5 o'clock near this noble country village, while traveling at an altitude of 3000 feet en route from Lakehurst, N. J., to the west.

Most of the dead were found in the tangled wreckage of the control cabin, where a full crew was on duty attempting to ride out the buffeting winds which resulted in the complete destruction of the giant of the air.

Ambulances and other conveyances which carried physicians and others to the scene immediately following the accident, were transporting the dead and injured to nearby towns. Those who met death in the unsuccessful fight against the elements were taken to Bellevalley, while the injured were scattered in the various hospitals of the community.

Tells Story of Heroism. The story of the disaster is one of heroism of the crew, pioneers in the interest of the development of lighter-than-air transportation. It is best told by Colonel C. G. Hall, United States army observer aboard the ill-fated ship.

"We were traveling west at an altitude of about 4000 feet when we encountered a storm," Colonel Hall said in describing the accident. "By changing our course a dozen or more times we dodged it, only to encounter a line squall which sent us to an altitude of 5500 feet before we realized what had happened.

"We opened the valves to let out gas and lowered the ship and were drawing away from the storm at a 50-mile per hour rate when the storm enveloped us and broke the ship into three pieces," he exclaimed to Commander Landsdowne. "Everyone beat it. When the crash came I was on the ladder leading from the control cabin to the rear portion of the ship.

"As I started to fall I clutched a girder from which I hung suspended, finally swinging my body over it and crawling 40 or 50 feet back into the ship.

When he reached the ship proper, Colonel Hall said that he found other members of the crew attempting to open the valves in order to bring about a descent. Here he found Lieutenant Roland G. Mayer, leading officer, and Lieutenant J. B. Anderson, aerologist. The latter, Colonel Hall said, had made his way to the rear on the cat walk. All three descended safely.

No Defect in Ship. Colonel Hall said that the catastrophe was in no way attributable to any defect in the ship. Meteorological advisers warning the navigators of the storm would have saved the ship, he said. Since there were no meteorological stations in the vicinity, however, the advice was not available.

Colonel Hall voiced high praise for the navy crew of the dirigible. Even immediately after the crash, he said, the crew's behavior was remarkable. Each man took the situation quietly, deporting himself as if he were on a free balloon and attempting to bring

Cavemen Abandon Trip to S. Francisco; Wives Won't Let 'Em

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 3.—(A. P.)—The expected visit during the California Diamond Jubilee celebration of a unique band of Oregonians, the Cavemen, an organization of businessmen of Grants Pass, has been cancelled. It was announced yesterday.

EX-CONVICT IS CAUGHT AT THE DALLES OREGON

W. R. Lloyd, Suspected of Taxi Driver Murder, Arrested in Railroad Yards—Bloodstains and Revolver Found—Boy Companion Is Also Held.

THE DALLES, Ore., Sept. 3.—W. R. Lloyd, former convict in the Oregon penitentiary, being held here in connection with the murder Tuesday night of C. I. Baun, Independence garage man, admitted today, officers say, that he had taken money from Baun and stolen his car.

Lloyd denied any connection with Baun's death and said that he must have been out of his head at the time of the robbery, questioning officers declared.

Lloyd's purported confession was made at the jail to traffic officers, Hans Blaser and Bud Crofton, Deputy Sheriff George Shearer, City Commissioner Kelly and Sidney Jenkins, a newspaper reporter.

THE DALLES, Ore., Sept. 3.—W. R. Lloyd, Oregon state penitentiary ex-convict, who is wanted by Polk county officers in connection with the murder Tuesday night of Clinton I. Baun, Independence garage man, is being held here following his arrest last night in the railroad yards here by James McClaskey and W. H. Kelly, railroad detectives.

J. H. Hite, who claims that he and a boy about 20 were picked up by Lloyd in an automobile near Troutdale, is also being held.

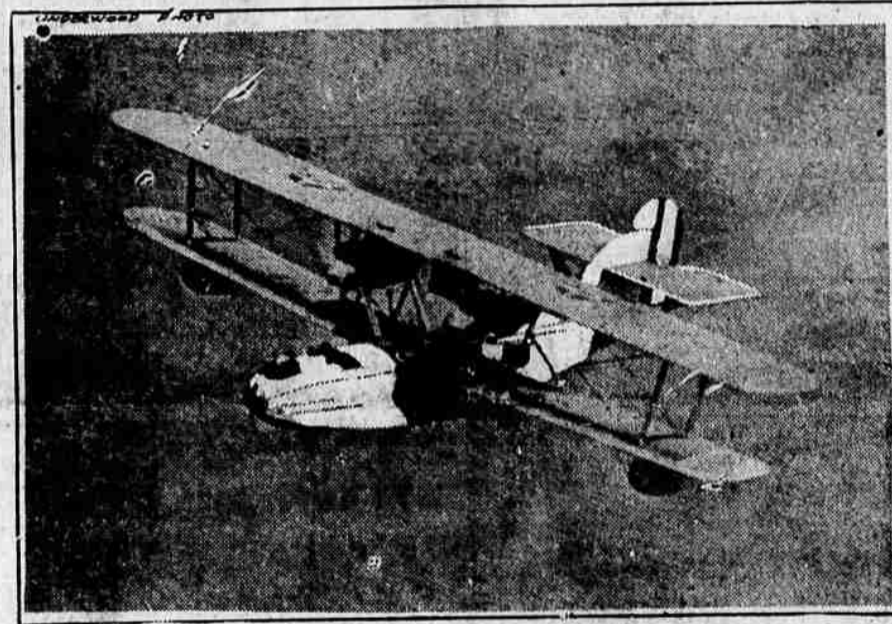
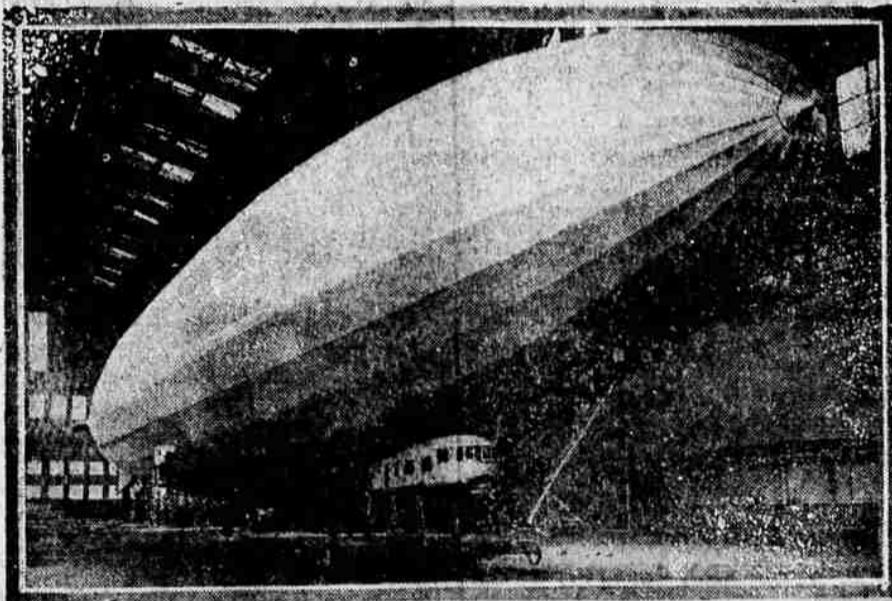
Both men deny any connection with Baun's death. Officers seized a suitcase checked by Lloyd from Mosier, 16 miles west of here, to The Dalles. In the suitcase officers found a .38-caliber revolver with all the shells discharged, 125 rounds of ammunition, a blue serge suit and a pair of shoes similar to those Lloyd was said to have worn before he left Independence Tuesday night.

Blood stains were found on the right knee of the trousers taken from the suitcase, and detectives said stains were found in a corresponding position on the underwear now worn by Lloyd. Blood stains were also found on the automobiles belonging to Baun, which was found abandoned near Mosier. The windshield of the car has a hole about four inches long, apparently caused, officers declared, by a mushroom bullet.

Lloyd was discovered hiding under a pile of poles in the railroad yards and when first questioned denied that his name was Lloyd. He contended he was W. E. Smith, but under a grilling by detectives broke down and admitted that his name was Lloyd.

He claimed the blue serge suit found in his suitcase belonged to Hite and that Hite put the gun into the suitcase when they were at Hood River. Hite denied that the suit or gun are his. A fingerprint expert has been asked to come here and examine the revolver, which has been touched.

The Greatest Air Tragedy in Country's History



The two machines of the air figuring today in the greatest air tragedy in the history of this country, are shown above. At top is the Shenandoah in its hangar taken before a flight several months ago. Below is the PN-9 No. 1 which at last reports was lost at sea when about 100 miles from its goal on a non-stop flight from San Francisco to Hawaii.

Wire Report on the Pear Market

NEW YORK, Sept. 3.—(U. S. Bureau of Markets)—Pears yesterday firm; arrived: 28 California; 7 Oregon; 10 Washington; 7 New York; 21 New York by boat.

California Bartlett's, 31 cars, best \$3.65 to \$4.05; ordinary, \$3 to \$3.20; ripe, \$2.40 to \$2.95; average \$3.25. Washington Bartlett's, 6 to 8 car. Fancy, \$2.60 to \$3.15. Average \$2.90.

Oregon Bartlett's, six cars. Extras \$2.65 to \$3.40; fair, \$2.70 to \$3; average \$3.01.

CHICAGO, Sept. 3.—(U. S. Bureau of Markets)—Yesterday's pears arrived: 13 California, 2 Colorado; 1 Michigan; 5 New York; 2 Michigan by boat; 34 on track.

California Bartlett's, 5800 boxes, \$1.60 to \$2.50; mostly \$2.70 and \$2.80. Oregon Bartlett's, 600 boxes, \$2.75 to \$3.25; mostly \$2.90.

LOCAL PEARS SENT TO DAWES DINNER

Through the courtesy of E. M. Weinbaum, manager of the trade and commerce department of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, choice Rogue River valley pears will be a part of the menu at the banquet Monday night tendered to Vice-President Charles G. Dawes by that organization, with 400 guests in attendance.

A telephone message was received this morning from Mr. Weinbaum by Secretary Robert Boyd of the local chamber of commerce to send several boxes of the fruit tonight, and efforts are now being made to do so. It is the plan to serve the pears in salads, with one pear allotted to each guest.

VON ELM WILL MEET JONES IN THE SEMI-FINAL

OAKMONT, Pa., Sept. 3.—(A. P.)—Bobby Jones, the champion, and George VonElm, the runner-up last year at Merion, face each other again tomorrow in the national amateur golf championship through victories today. This time their match will be a semi-final.



In the other match of the semi-finals, little Wally Gunn of Atlanta, will meet Dick Jones of White Plains, N. Y. Bobby Jones had little difficulty in eliminating his opponent of the day. Clarence Wolff of Sappington, Mo., by six and five, while Von Elm, after being one down at the last turn saw 'Big Jesse Guilford wander in the traps. VonElm won by two and one.

EAGLE POINT IS TURNED DOWN ON WATER EXTENSION

SALEM, Ore., Sept. 3.—A new policy, which is expected to force re-organization of many eastern Oregon irrigation districts was adopted by the state securities commission yesterday when it disallowed three out of four applications from irrigation districts for extensions of the period of state guarantee of interest. An exception was made of the Tumalo district of Deschutes county because of moral obligation on the part of the state extending back to the early history of the project in the Oswald West administration.

The districts turned down were the Silver Lake district of Lake county, the Eagle Point district of Jackson county and the Lone Pine of Crook county. Under the law the state guarantee of interest may be allowed for five years. The Tumalo district was allowed an extension of one and one-half years on its entire bond issue of \$50,000 which will, when added to previous guarantees, make the guarantee period five years. This is contingent on an extension of time from the state to make repairs to the defective Tumalo dam and an increased assessment on lands having partial water rights.

Death Toll of the Automobile

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 3.—Mrs. Anna Kretschmer, 53, was killed last night at Bryant Station, and her daughter, Mrs. Anna Lehman, 61, received hip injuries and three hip passengers were injured when Mrs. Lehman's automobile was struck by a Southern Pacific electric train.

Roseburg Mayor On Return From Local Meet, Hits 3 Deer

ROSEBURG, Ore., Sept. 3.—A car driven by Mayor George Houck who was returning late last night from the Southern Oregon Medical association meeting at Medford was damaged when it struck a deer in the canyon south of Canyonville. Mayor Houck was traveling at a fairly rapid rate of speed when three deer leaped from a bank directly in front of his car.

T. WORD REFUSES TO ACCEPT JOB; D. A. ELKINS MAY

Ex-Sheriff of Multnomah Co. Turns Down Position As Warden State Penitentiary—Elkins to Take Dalrymple's Place, Temporarily

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 3.—Tom Word, former Multnomah county sheriff today declined to accept the office of warden in the Oregon penitentiary. Word notified Governor Pierce of his decision today, and at the same time announced his intention of resuming his duties as special agent for the federal department of justice from which he resigned several weeks ago.

The former sheriff refused to state his reason for declining the wardenship. "The reason I have turned down this position does not interest anyone other than my family and myself," he told newspapermen.

SALEM, Ore., Sept. 3.—That Dilhard A. Elkins, industrial accident commissioner and former sheriff of Lane county, will be delegated the task of bringing order out of chaos at the state penitentiary and directing that institution until such time as Governor Pierce can secure a capable applicant to succeed Warden A. M. Dalrymple, the Capital Journal says it is reliably informed today.

The refusal of Tom Word to accept the wardenship, and the imperative need for a change in the administration of the prison as pointed out in the report of the committee named by the governor to investigate the Murray-Kelly-Wilcox escape, together with the chief executive's inability to find a suitable man to take charge of the prison immediately are given as the reasons for the report that Elkins is to take temporary charge.

Elkins, it is said, will retain his place on the accident commission and will act chiefly in a supervisory capacity at the prison. The Capital Journal is informed that announcement of the retirement of Dalrymple will be accompanied by a public announcement of the text of the report of the governor's investigating committee.

The temporary appointment of Elkins is said to have been occasioned by the governor's desire to have plenty of time to cast about for a warden capable of maintaining discipline among the convicts, and at the same time possessing the ability to successfully manage the prison industries, which have been greatly expanded during the Pierce administration.

A precedent for this arrangement is seen in the action of Governor Olcott several years ago in placing Dr. R. E. L. Steiner, superintendent of the state hospital, in charge of the prison for several months for the expressed purpose of placing it on a sound basis.

ALBANY, Ore., Sept. 3.—Oral Brenneman, 18, son of the Rev. Mose Brenneman, local Mennonite minister, was instantly killed at a Southern Pacific crossing at Tangent last night when a light touring car he was driving struck a northbound freight train switching cars onto the siding.

FEAR NAVY PLANE LOST IN PACIFIC

No Trace of Missing PN-9 No. 1 Found By Searching Fleet—Skies Clear, But Moonlight Proves Handicap at Night—Reports of Flares Seen Prove False.

HONOLULU, Sept. 3.—(A. P.)—For the second time since naval surface and aircraft took up their unrelenting vigil in search of the missing PN-9 No. 1 and its crew, dawn broke over the now peacefully calm waters of the tropical mid-Pacific sea which still kept secret the destiny of the seaplane and its crew. Clear skies aided the air and water craft in their search today, but the searching destroyers last night were hampered by the moonlight reflecting on the waters, which limited visibility so as to prevent sight of any possible flare which might be sent up by the missing seaplane. Just before midnight the destroyer Aroostook reported: "Think I see a flare ahead."

The Aroostook steamed at full speed in the direction of the supposed flare, but could see nothing. SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 3.—(A. P.)—Search for the missing naval seaplane PN-9 No. 1 and crew which afternoon after riding along on the high hope of reaching Honolulu on a record making flight, continued today after over night reports to naval headquarters from searching surface and aircraft brought only routine messages of the continuing search.

Without word upon which to ally fear that the missing plane and its crew might not be found, naval officers today had explored the field of conjecture in surmising what had happened after the plane was forced down by lack of fuel. The most favorable theory advanced was that the plane had made a successful landing in the ocean less than 300 miles off the Hawaiian coast at 1:45 p. m. Tuesday, drifted out of the search area and was beached on some island point.

The navy withdrew from further attempts to make a non-stop flight to Honolulu from San Francisco when announcement was made here yesterday abandoning the projected take-off of the huge PB-1 which was scheduled to start for Honolulu today. One hundred and fifty drums of gasoline were landed at Lahaina, the island base from which the air forces under orders to conduct the search of the area in which the big seaplane disappeared, is operating.

It was estimated by the plane builders that buoyancy of the empty gasoline tanks would be sufficient to float 10,855 pounds on the water, the weight of the plane without fuel. The missing PN-9 No. 1 was in the air about 23 hours when it dropped from sight.

The skill of Commander John Rodgers in charge of the craft, caused navy officers here to remain hopeful that the missing commander and crew were still alive.

Casualties of the Air Service

NAPA, Cal., Sept. 3.—(A. P.)—Irvin G. Hunt, amateur aviator, and Raymond D. Avedo, a passenger, were killed during the noon hour today crashed 1000 feet to Willard field, near here.

Missing Mail Plane Found

CHICAGO, Sept. 3.—(A. P.)—Postal and air mail employees here said the eastbound air mail, which had been reported lost, had reached its eastern terminus an hour and five minutes ahead of time today.

OREGON FARMERS ARE PROSPEROUS, STATE LOANS BEING PAID IN FULL

SALEM, Ore., Sept. 3.—Out of a total of \$396,431 loaned by the state board of control to eastern Oregon farmers to reseed land frozen out last winter, nearly half, or \$193,452 has been paid back, according to figures on the board's record. It is considered significant of an improved farming condition in the state that every loan paid back has been paid in full with the exception of two loans in Morrow county that have been partially paid. A survey in the several counties indicates that the state will be repaid every dollar. All payments are due by January 1 next, and no further loans are authorized. As fast as the money is repaid to the state it is turned back to the World War Veterans state aid fund and reinvested.

HYDRO ELECTRIC BILL LAUNCHED AT CONFERENCE IN GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

SALEM, Ore., Sept. 3.—A proposed initiative measure for a constitutional amendment authorizing hydro electric power development in Oregon was read at an informal conference held yesterday in the office of Governor Pierce and attended by representatives of the House of Representatives of the State Senate, the Umatilla Rapids association and other organizations. It is hoped that money for the development would be raised through an issue of bonds. The governor or the legislature would appoint a committee of five members to have charge of the development. Before any definite action is taken toward initiating a bill the measure must have the approval of the State Senate, and it is probable that a measure will be submitted to a Grants committee some time during the fall.