

FAWCETT HEROISM IN WAR RECALLED BY RECENT DEATH

Jackson County Veteran Rescued Wounded Comrade From Inferno of Exploding Munitions Dump in 1918

Edward Fawcett, who was fatally injured Tuesday, at the head of Elliott creek in Clatsop county, is the subject of the following interesting communication published in the Medford Mail Tribune, November 10, 1923: To the Editor:

This is a scoop on a war story that broke more than seven years ago; as big a story of heroism as the World war or any other ever produced; a story that merely proves that the poet knew his oil when he said: "Full many a tale of purest ray serene, the dark unfathomed eaves of silence bear." When the medals and the war decorations are proudly displayed tomorrow on the chest of many a worthy hero celebrating the Armistice anniversary, one of Jackson county's stalwart sons, E. C. Fawcett, will in all probability be peacefully digging in a mine in the silence of the hills of Jackson county, and yet for cold grey nerve, for individual bravery, Fawcett's feat, on the war swept Vesle, back in August or 1918, has parallels in the annals of war.

If you can get the picture of a continuous drum fire of falling shells, of a big ammunition dump with tons of big shells, hand grenades and explosives, on fire and exploding with the regularity of firecrackers on a Chinese new year; of a wounded soldier with clothes on fire, lying in the center of this inferno; of soldiers fleeing in all directions from the falling explosives; then you can gather some idea of Fawcett's remarkable feat.

Fawcett had just put in five days and nights of volunteer service in packing grub and ammunition thru a zone swept by machine gun fire; he was weak and sick with dysentery, but when his great opportunity came he did not hesitate or measure the chances. Here is the story, as written by an eye witness, Gilbert Stuart, now one of the foremost building contractors in southern Oregon:

"This happened, I think, on the 9th day of August, 1918. When Jerry fell back from the Marne river, he left large dumps of ammunition scattered along the roads. There was one of these dumps (a big one) on the road above Chiere Chartraine, a bunch of 150's some 77's, lots of powder, hand grenades and all other kinds of explosive junk. This dump was about a mile or a mile and a half from the Vesle river.

There was quite a war on the Vesle. The Americans (we were with the 4th division) crossed the river on August 4, but the German defense was too strong and our losses too heavy to gain more ground.

"The fighting was heavy for several days, but about the 8th of August the Americans quit attacking and started building defensive works. We, the engineers, were digging ditches, stringing barbed wire, and all of the other stuff that goes with war. The company to which Ed Fawcett and I belonged were camped within about 200 yards of the captured German ammunition dump, dug into the regular 'fox holes' for sleeping quarters. We worked the night of the 8th, stringing wire and digging trenches near Mount Saint Martin, and came back at daylight to sleep. C company, of the same regiment were working in the woods near where we had been stringing wire, but were sheltered by the trees as could work in the daytime. Along about 5 o'clock in the afternoon (we of K company had slept during the day, and were waiting for chow) two squads of C company men were coming back from their work on the road that led by the ammunition dump. I don't know what set that dump off. There were lots of shells coming over, also German planes had been bombing quite a lot and one of the other got a direct hit and the dump blew up; first, a terrific roar, and then the continuous explosion of shells. Most of the men going by were killed, several more were wounded. One of the men, badly wounded, was lying by the exploding pile of shells. Ed Fawcett saw it happen and saw the wounded man lying helpless. It wasn't a pleasant place, shells of different sizes were bursting all around, cast iron was raining all over the country, I think everybody that could get under cover did so. I know I did.

Ed didn't dive into a hole, instead he walked into that inferno of exploding shells, took that 200 pounds of helpless wounded soldier and dragged him to safety. That's about all there was to the greatest exhibition of cool nerve that I saw or heard about in the war."

(Signed) GILBERT STUART, Ex-huck private, 4th engineers. Had Fawcett served in the British army. It is safe to say that within a week he would have been decorated with Britain's greatest war medal, the Victoria Cross. Months afterward, down in Germany, he received a carbon copy of a citation, written on paper that was but little better than wrapping paper that a butcher uses for meat.

Fawcett is of the quiet and retiring type. He was well past 40 when he enlisted for the war, and there are not in Jackson county, or the state of Oregon, outside of his comrades in the service, a dozen people who ever heard of his war exploits. All of which goes to show the wisdom of Gray, when he wrote his famous elegy.

E. E. KELLY.

Port Houston Made Money HOUSTON, Texas (UP)—Port Houston made a profit of more than \$25,000 from city facilities of the ship channel during the first six months of the fiscal year ending July 30, 1934.

Brownsboro

BROWNSBORO, Aug. 16.—(Sp.)—Mrs. Ruth Vettel and daughter,

Thelma, of Berkeley, Calif. were overnight guests at the home of Mrs. Vettel's sister, Mrs. W. M. Hansen Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tucker and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Tucker and children enjoyed a picnic in the park at Ash-

land on Sunday of last week.

George Brown and daughter, Helen, and John Beam made a trip to Huckleberry mountain last Thursday.

Mrs. Jesse Glass had as guests on Tuesday of last week Mrs. Albert Glass and daughter, Miss Irma. Other

guests at the Glass home on Friday were Mrs. Bigham and daughters and Mrs. Askew.

Miss Daily of Medford is in charge of Wright's store and service station while Mr. and Mrs. Wright and children are spending a few days at

the coast. Bill Swain accompanied them on the trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Henry and children of Imperial valley arrived Tuesday for an extended visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Henry and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tucker.

Gertrude Bloomingcamp of Hornbrook, Calif. is a guest at the home of her aunt, Mrs. L. J. Hohrer and uncle, W. M. and G. A. Hansen and families.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

Beat Her on Holidays BRIDGEPORT, O. (UP)—Married in 1930, George F. Koch observed Labor Day the next year and New Year's of 1933 by beating his wife, Sadie, she charged in a divorce petition.

AUGUST FURNITURE SALE

And Sale of Rugs, Stoves, Washers, Curtains, Housewares, Blankets



Extra Big Suite! Extra Big Value!

All Tapestry

\$38.88

\$5 Down, \$5 Monthly, Plus Carrying Charge.

A suite for homes where people like to stretch out and lounge comfortably. Extra big davenport. Extra wide chair. Both pieces are covered—front, back, and sides in rich, long-wearing tapestry. If you want the most for your money—buy it in Wards August Furniture Sale.

- Big 78-inch davenport:
- Extra wide, deep chair
- Big, comfortable arms
- Spring-filled cushions
- Covered in tapestry
- Carved stump panels
- Carved base—legs
- Spring-filled seats

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

WARDS Easy Payments

This Easy Payment Plan on Purchases of \$20 or more—makes buying at Wards easier still!

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Curtain Materials

10c

Yd.

Three favorite fabrics to choose from—marquisette, Mission Net and Boston. Measure your window, then buy what you need at this extremely low sale price!

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Scatter Rugs

Price Goes Up After the Sale!

Sturdy Axminsters, bright colors... 27 x 36-1/2 in. size.

\$1.29

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Seamless Axminster Rugs

\$24.88

33 Down, \$1 Monthly, Plus Carrying Charge

Persian patterns, copied exclusively for Wards! All perfect. Selvaged sides.

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

End Table

Sensational at This Sale Price! Unfinished—ready to paint. Built of hardwood.

68c

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Solid Walnut

\$4.44

Each

Choice of 5 Styles

Big values at this low sale price! Solid walnut occasional tables, coffee and end tables.

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Metal Bed

Big Ward Value—Low Priced! All metal—in walnut finish. Full or twin size. Only...

\$5.88

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Dinette Set

\$9.88

5 Pieces

Dropleaf table and four chairs in maple, green, or ivory finish. A big value!

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Pull-Up Chair

A Big Value at a Low Price!

Extra large! In tapestry, or moquette. Buy now, save!

\$4.95

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Coil Spring

Save at This Low Sale Price!

99 big single deck coils for restful sleep. Sale-priced at

\$8.88

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Studio Couch

Made by Simmons! Low-Priced!

Use it as a couch by day! At night—open it to double or two twin beds. Compartment for bedding. Homespun covered.

\$31.95

\$3 Down, \$3 Monthly, Plus Carrying Charge

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Lounge Chair

With Matching Ottoman!

Big, deep and roomy. Covered in durable homespun.

\$18.88

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

3-Piece SUITE

\$58.88

\$3 Down, \$6 Monthly, Plus Carrying Charge

Bed, Chest, and Choice of Vanity, or Dresser

This American walnut veneer 3-piece suite sells on sight—at this low August Sale price! Nothing skimped about it—either in size or quality!

- Extra large pieces—American walnut veneer
- Rich hand-rubbed finish—plate-glass mirror
- Panel or poster bed in full or twin size

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Mattress Value!

Innerspring—at a Low Sale Price!

Deep inner coils in filled cotton. Ticking cover.

\$11.45

AUGUST Sale SPECIAL

Poster Bed

Buy Now! Save in the Sale!

Colonial style. In walnut, mahogany, maple finish.

\$9.88

Full size

MONTGOMERY WARD

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