

PILOT DIES IN CRASH OF PLANE

John C. Bieghler
Victim As Craft
Strikes Highway

Stall At Low Altitude
Said Accident Cause

Crash of a light aircraft on state highway No. 234 two miles west of Sams Valley at about 12:25 p.m. yesterday, fatally injured the pilot, John C. Bieghler, 29, 704 McAndrews road, Medford.

Bieghler was brought to the Sacred Heart hospital where he died at 2:10 p.m.

Eyewitnesses to the crash, including Bieghler's brother-in-law, Burlie Burrenson, told state police that Bieghler was flying low around the area, circling and "putting on a show" for friends and relatives. The plane stalled at an altitude of about 500 feet, and went into a straight-down tailspin, crashing on the highway, they said.

Bieghler was literally cut out of the wreckage by State Police Officer James O. Joy, and ambulance attendants.

In addition to Bieghler's brother-in-law, other eyewitnesses to the crash included Albert Strauss, who lives about one block from where the crash took place, and his son, Dalton, and daughter, Doreen, Paul Schulz, another neighbor, also saw the crash. The group was sitting in cars watching the activities of the plane overhead before the accident occurred.

Ernest Piercy, proprietor of the airfield from which Bieghler was flying, said yesterday he believed the crash to have resulted from the plane's stalling at insufficient altitude. This is the first accident in flying from the Piercy field, he said, in more than 1,700,000 miles of flying. The plane was a 1946 Taylorcraft. Bieghler had been flying for about two years, Piercy said, and was nearly ready to take an examination for his commercial pilot's license.

Bieghler was building supplies manager of the Montgomery Ward store here, for about three years. He was a technical sergeant in the field artillery during the war, serving with the fifth army in Italy, and was stationed at Camp White for a time.

In 1943 he was married to the former Helen Burrenson, of Sams Valley. They were the parents of two boys, Douglas, three, and Donald, five.

Besides his widow and children, he leaves his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey C. Bieghler, Denver, Colo., a brother and a sister in San Francisco, and another sister in Denver. His parents are en route here.

Conger-Morris Funeral home is in charge of funeral arrangements, with details to be announced later.

Heavy Toll Feared
In Southern Iran

Tehran, Iran, Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—A heavy death toll was feared today in two remote sections of southern Iran hit by floods and earthquakes in the past five days.

An official report from Zehdan, 750 miles southeast near the Pakistan border, said 500 persons perished in floods which washed away two thirds of the city. No other details were available.

Another report said 1,000 persons were killed in an earthquake which rocked the Port Kangan area on the southwest Persian gulf 180 miles south of Bushire five days ago.

Three truckloads of army troops, doctors and nurses were dispatched to Kangan from Bushire. Reports from Bushire said that the Iranian warship Peland arrived there this morning en route to Kangan.

Red Border Guards
Relax Restrictions

Berlin, Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—The backlog of Berlin-bound trucks piled up at Helmsdorf by the Russian baby blockade disappeared today when Soviet border guards relaxed traffic restrictions.

Trucks were passed through the Soviet checkpoint at the rate of eight to 10 an hour compared to a low of two an hour last week. West German police said a backlog of 60 trucks piled up at Helmsdorf last night was gone by 6 a.m. today.

End of the baby blockade was signaled during the week-end when east German police announced the ending of what they called "document orientation week."

Parents' Education
Theme Of Talks Here

According to one of the more modern theories regarding present education patterns, adults cannot be considered fully educated unless as children, they have been taught how to be "social beings." Academic learning and the basic "three R's" are not enough. That is the thesis of talks being given here by Drs. Ray Hawk and Jack McAuley of the Southern Oregon college faculty.

At a Washington school PTA Dad's night program last week Dr. Hawk spoke on the history of education and the background for the modern trends. Dr. McAuley spoke on the efforts, experiments, and results in obtaining those objectives.

Major Coal Fields
Closed By Strikers

Pittsburgh, Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—Rebelling united mine workers closed the nation's major coal fields today convinced they were winning their "no contract, no work" strike.

With the miners' revolt against John L. Lewis' three-day work week spreading, President Truman weighed the problem of intervening to protect the nation's scant coal supplies.

Jubilant rank-and-file leaders of the strikers declared their drive for a showdown was "in the home stretch." Reports from the coal fields indicated production was at the lowest point since the wildcat walkouts started three weeks ago.

Facilities Inspected
For Feasibility of
Constructing H-Bomb

Washington, Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—Congressional atomic officials already have inspected atomic facilities to determine the feasibility of building the super-hydrogen bomb, it was announced today.

Chairman Brien McMahon of the joint congressional atomic energy committee disclosed that committee members have inspected the nation's atomic facilities with the military chiefs and the nation's top-ranking scientists on the H-bomb problem.

May Take Vote
McMahon indicated that a vote might be taken soon on the issue. He said that he, himself, has informed President Truman of his "personal views." Mr. Truman will make the decision whether or not to build the H-bomb.

McMahon's disclosures were made shortly after David E. Lilienthal, retiring chairman of the atomic energy commission, said that he is not opposed to making the hydrogen bomb "as such."

Lilienthal said, however, that the "question of whether or not to build (the H-bomb) is not the issue."

McMahon's statement was made after a closed meeting with Robert Oppenheimer, chairman of the advisory committee for the atomic energy commission.

To Meet Tomorrow
He said the committee took no votes or action, but will meet tomorrow afternoon "for further deliberations." He declined to say whether "votes or action" would be forthcoming at future meetings.

Many congressmen already stated their beliefs and appear willing to put any money needed for building the hydrogen bomb.

Although Lilienthal said the question—to build or not to build the H-bomb—is not the "issue," he declined to say what he considers the issue to be. But he recalled that during the war the question frequently arose as to where the country's resources, brains and money best could be used.

Show Being Presented
At Camp White Today

Patients and personnel of the Camp White domiciliary center were to be entertained this afternoon by a musical review.

The review is sponsored by the Veterans Hospital Camp shows. The review is described as "colorfully costumed and gay," featuring dancing, singing and music.

Sergei Malovsky, conductor and pianist, will conduct the review in which international performers will appear including Eugene Sablin, Marilyn Stevens, Tanja Tavis, Claire Markoff, Alexandra Yablonsky, Vladimir Fedchenko, Ann Coolidge and Andrew Hamsby.

The review was presented this afternoon in the center's theater and will be tonight in the infirmary and the theater. Veterans Hospital Camp shows appear in 100 veterans' hospitals in 43 states.

Man Jailed After
Alleged Altercation

Duff Pirtle, Jacksonville, is held in the county jail in connection with an altercation involving Mr. and Mrs. George Darting, also of Jacksonville, at Jacksonville Saturday night, according to state and Medford city police reports.

City police said they learned at Community hospital that Darting suffered a cut forehead and lip and other head injuries and Mrs. Darting a severely lacerated nose.

Train, Car Collide,
No One Said Injured

City police said that Harold W. Smith, route 3, box 130, escaped apparently unhurt about 10:45 a.m. today when the sedan he was driving struck a freight train at the Fourth street railway crossing.

One side of Smith's car was reported badly damaged. Police stated that Smith told them that he did not see the train in time to avoid the mishap. Engineer of the train was said to be John Young, Roseburg.

Road Conditions

Chains were an absolute necessity for travel over the Siskiyou and Greensprings mountain passes and were required on the Redwood highway and on highway 99 north over Sexton mountain, state police said this noon.

There were 10 inches of new snow on the Siskiyou and Greensprings this morning, temperature fell to 18 degrees and snow was falling again this noon, according to police. The two highway routes were "slick." Snow was on highway 99 north to Portland.

United Press said constant plowing kept Oregon highways open today despite the snow. All major routes except McKenzie pass and east and west Diamond lake roads, closed earlier, were open.

January Continues
Winter Antics As
More Snow Falls

Low Pressure Trough
Brings Renewed Storm

January, 1950, continued its presentation of winter weather here over the week-end, when the tail-end of a low pressure area which came inland from the Washington state coastline swung over the Rogue valley, again blanketing the area with a covering of snow.

Three inches were recorded here, with seven inches at Grants Pass, 10 inches in Ashland, and four in Jacksonville.

The snow began at about 2 p.m. Sunday, continuing in flurries until about 10 p.m. It began again at 1:20 a.m. today, and one inch fell between then and 4 a.m. From 4 to 6:30 a.m. when the fall let up, an additional two inches fell. The three inches of snow contained only .22 of an inch of water.

Maximum temperature yesterday was freezing—32 degrees, and the minimum last night was 27. Possibility of more snow in Medford, with colder temperatures to prevent that still on the ground from melting, was forecast by the weather bureau. The temperature will go down close to 20 degrees tonight, the bureau said.

The storm made travelling hazardous on mountain routes, but traffic was moving with chains.

Only one minor accident in Medford was attributed to the weather, state police said, but streets were slippery as the light, fluffy snow was packed down by the first cars, and before it became slushy.

City police today cautioned at least one motorist for hauling children on a sled behind an automobile, they said, and added that this is an extremely hazardous practice.

Safeway Manager,
Son Kidnap Victims

Portland, Ore., Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—Detectives had few clues today to a pair of masked gunmen who kidnapped a Safeway store manager and his son Saturday night and forced the manager to open the store safe at gunpoint.

The amount of money taken from the safe was unknown. The only written record, a bank deposit slip, was still in the post office's week-end mail pile.

Store Manager Wesley K. Bailey said the gunmen entered his home and as one of them forced his wife to stand and face a wall, the other took him and his son, Bob, 14, to the store in an automobile.

After looting the safe, the bandit drove Bailey and his son back home. Then the pair cut telephone lines and told the Baileys to face a living room wall for 10 minutes while they made their escape.

The apparently well-planned robbery lasted only 20 minutes.

Streamliner Gets Away
As Engine Men Battle Fire

Kittitas, Wash., Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—The engineer and fireman of the Milwaukee streamliner "Hiawatha" stopped their nine-car train and climbed out of the cab to investigate a small fire in one of the electric motors last night.

The train, carrying nearly 200 passengers, had just covered the six-mile uphill run from Kittitas to Renslow, Wash.

As Engineer Edward Maxwell and Fireman A. R. Liberty fought the blaze underneath the engine, they forgot that one of them should be checking the air brakes.

Train Starts To Move
Suddenly the train started to move.

Maxwell and Liberty jumped clear but treacherously underfoot prevented them from getting back aboard. As the pair watched, horror-stricken, the train picked up momentum and sped backwards down the hill toward Kittitas.

Conductor W. B. Hollenbeck alerted the rest of the train crew. As Hollenbeck stood on the rear platform of the observation car, he frantically waved a red signal light. Brakeman T. Barton, aided by porters and the baggage-man, raced from car to car setting hand brakes.

Most of the passengers, used to delays caused by slides, were unaware of what was happening. Later, train officials said, "I guess they thought it was just a bit of backtracking caused by snow on the tracks."

Reaches Depot
As the train rattled down the foothill of the Saddle mountains, Engineer Maxwell stumbled through drifts and reached the Renslow depot. He telephoned the Kittitas station agent.

"I've lost my train . . . It's headed your way," he shouted. The station agent looked out the window. Down the tracks at a 30-mile-an-hour clip came the Hiawatha. But by then the hand brakes were beginning to take effect.

The runaway train finally stopped just beyond the depot. The unscheduled ride which began at 8:09 p.m., had taken 14 minutes.

Later, after a helper engine brought Maxwell and Liberty here from Renslow, Superintendent A. L. Thor questioned the embarrassed pair.

Not Blamed
"They didn't want to talk about it," Thor said. "Fortunately, there were no other trains in the path of the Hiawatha."

Thor said: "While Maxwell and Liberty were trying to put out the fire they forgot that one of them should have been periodically bringing up the air in the brakes. However, they can't be blamed, because they were too busy fighting the blaze."

15-Foot Drifts
Outside Portland
Block Traffic

Inland Empire Swept
By Sub-Zero Weather

By United Press

An icy wind pummeled northwestern Oregon and southwestern Washington early today while record snows and huge drifts piled up in Oregon's ordinarily temperate Willamette valley and the thermometer dropped to new record lows in the Inland Empire.

Great puffs of snow blew into buildings, and automobiles for awhile during the night and drifts that reached 15 feet in many places outside of Portland blocked traffic and forced closing of nearly all the schools in the area.

Three Lose Lives
The latest blizzard to hit Oregon took at least three lives.

Charles Gilman Davis, 58 was injured fatally Sunday night when a large tree crashed down on him about 50 yards from his home. He had gone out to investigate a power failure and another fallen tree.

Two children were found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning in the back seat of their parents' automobile at La Grande Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. R. Edmiston, Lincoln, Neb., were driving from Spokane, Wash., to Bilozi, Miss., when the tragedy occurred. The children, Robert, 3, and James, 1, were sleeping in the rear seat and were overcome by the fumes, apparently from a defective exhaust pipe.

The weather continued its record-breaking pace in the Inland Empire. The weather bureau at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, today reported a record low temperature of 30 below zero. Yesterday the thermometer dropped to 29 below. Lake Coeur d'Alene's 47 square miles were frozen over. At Spokane, Wash., the temperature was 24 below zero early yesterday, the lowest in 62 years. It was 18 below at 8 a.m. today.

In Oregon Multnomah county road equipment was pressed into service to plow through an estimated 300 miles of county roads closed by drifts.

Corbett, east of Portland, was isolated and the old Columbia river highway was closed at Springdale. The water-level Columbia highway was blocked at Corbett station and all north-south roads east of 122nd avenue and north of NE Halsey street were reported blocked.

"We have lots of 15-foot drifts to battle through," said Assistant Roadmaster Paul C. Northrup. "On Sidel road near Springdale there is a drift 22 feet high."

Northrup said that if the wind subsides, the county hoped to have all routes open to at least one-way traffic by Wednesday.

Official 15 Degrees
Portland's official airport temperature minimum was 15 degrees but many households reported readings below 10 on their porches. Some of the blown-in snow even penetrated doors and windows, residents reported.

Heaviest snow in the latest blizzard fell in the Portland area, where from four to eight inches were recorded in various parts of the city. Salem also caught the brunt of the storm with more than six inches and schools in both Salem and Portland, with a few exceptions, were closed.

Trains Late
Trains were reported "many hours late" on nearly all lines. Buses also operated on delayed schedules and there was no service between Portland and The Dalles on the Columbia river highway. Buses to eastern Oregon were going over the Mt. Hood loop and Wapinitia cutoff, then to The Dalles. Airlines reported, however, they were on near-normal schedules from the Portland airport.

Pendleton was Oregon's coldest reporting weather station early today with 7 degrees below zero. Baker followed with a minus 15, Bend with a minus 8 and Burns with a minus one. The Dalles had one above, Ontario 4, Eugene and Portland 15, Klamath Falls 16, Medford 27, Newport and North Bend 31.

97 Persons Visit
Park Over Week-End

Crater Lake National park had a total of 97 visitors over the week-end, 89 of them skiers, park headquarters here reported today. No skiing accidents were reported. The ski tow was broken at noon Sunday but was expected to be back in service by next week-end.

There are 18 inches of new snow at the park, making a total snowfall this month of 308 inches. It has packed and settled, however, to a present depth of 135 inches.

West and south entrance roads are open to one-way traffic, the park service reported, but the road from government camp to the lake rim is temporarily closed.

Maximum park temperature the past 24 hours was 14 degrees; minimum was 9 degrees, and at 8:30 a.m. today the mercury stood at 10 degrees.

Master Criminals
Hunted By Police
In New York Area

New York, Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—Two master criminals, one a real life "Raffles" and the other a "Jimmy Valentine," hid out with their gangs today from police and FBI agents after three thefts netted \$575,500 in 48 hours.

The "Raffles" thief masterminded the Saturday night burglary of \$428,000 in jewels and \$500 in cash from Maxine Moore Sanson, 32, former model and wife of millionaire hosiery company President Stanton D. Sanson. This was the biggest jewel robbery in New York's criminal history.

Rose Home Looted
"Raffles" also may have been the leader of the three-man gang which looted half-pint showman Billy Rose's home of \$100,000 in jewels and furs Thursday night, police said.

But it was a "Jimmy Valentine" police and FBI agents sought for the burglary in suburban Babylon on Long Island of \$47,000 in cash and traveler's checks from the Suffolk County Federal Savings & Loan association Saturday night.

That all three of the recent robberies here had been planned by master criminals was apparent in the fact that law officers had virtually no clues to work with.

Mystery Fiction
"Raffles," a suave jewel thief of English mystery fiction, always left his pursuers empty handed of clues.

"Jimmy Valentine," an American fictional criminal, was able to crack any safe, and often opened them merely by listening to the lock's tumblers, disdaining the crudities of cryptography or dynamite.

Labor Party Favored
In British Elections

London, Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—Two British public opinion polls indicated today a favorable trend for the ruling labor party in the British general elections on February 23.

The Daily Express, Lord Beaverbrook's mass circulation conservative morning newspaper, said its weekly poll showed new losses in conservative support.

The poll also showed that 62 per cent of all persons polled thought labor would win the election. Only 26 per cent of those polled thought Winston Churchill's conservative party would win.

The liberal News Chronicle prominently displayed the latest Gallup poll, giving the labor party a slight margin of the straw votes cast for the first time since last April.

New School Building
Destroyed By Blaze

Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—A two-alarm fire today destroyed a new 12-room semi-detached school building in the Salishan housing project area here.

The building was not yet occupied by students. School Superintendent Howard Gould said damage would be "at least \$100,000."

No injuries were reported.

Ingrid Bergman's Husband
Agrees to Speedy Divorce

Hollywood, Jan. 30.—(U.P.)—Ingrid Bergman's husband has received "third hand" information which "seemed to clarify" whether or not she is pregnant, his spokesman said today.

Representatives of the actress husband, Dr. Peter Lindstrom, wouldn't say exactly what the information told them nor how it was received.

But as result of it, Lindstrom agreed today to let her get a speedy Valentine's day divorce to marry her Italian sweetheart, Film Director Roberto Rossellini.

Lindstrom added, however, that he will file his own suit to divorce the star in California, as soon as they can settle custody of their 11-year-old daughter, Pia, "to the child's best interest."

The doctor, who said he just received "clarification" of reports his wife is soon having a baby, decided not to fight her hurry-up divorce in Juarez, Mexico. He said he will "ignore it."

WEATHER

FORECAST: Partly cloudy with snow flurries mostly in mountains tonight. Increasing and thickening cloudiness Tuesday. Near 20 tonight.

Highest Yesterday 22
Lowest This Morning 25
Prec. to 4:30 A.M. Today 11