

# Full-Scale Investigation Slated In Crash of Ships Off Point Sur

San Francisco — (U.P.) — The Coast Guard today ordered a full-scale investigation into the collision of two ships off Point Sur, a rocky and treacherous promontory 120 miles south of San Francisco.

A Coast Guard board of inquiry will convene tomorrow morning to hear testimony from crewmen of the freighter Marine Leopard and the lumber schooner Howard Olson about the accident.

The collision took place before dawn yesterday when the 10,662-ton Marine Leopard rammed into the 2477-ton lumber schooner Howard Olson, slicing the Olson in two and causing it to sink.

Four members of the Olson's crew were lost—three of them dead and one missing. Twenty-five men were plucked from the bitter cold waters of the ocean. Two of the rescued men were hospitalized.

Still unexplained was how the two ships could collide in clear weather and fairly calm seas—and after they had sighted each other a half-hour before the accident about five miles apart.

**Other Vessel Blamed**  
Crewmen of both ships were reluctant to talk much about the accident, but those that did blamed the other vessel.

The Marine Leopard docked here yesterday afternoon. Its owners, the Luckenbach Steamship company, clamped a news blackout around the vessel and asked crewmen not to talk to reporters.

Damage to the Marine Leopard was "heavy," a company spokesman said. The ship had an 18-foot-long gash in the starboard side about 15 feet aft of the bow and a slight dent in the stern. The fuel tank and fresh water tank were flooded and water was in the forward cargo hatch.

Meanwhile, insurance investigators, officials of both ship-owners and Coast Guard officers began preliminary investigations last night at Monterey, 20 miles from the scene of the accident.

and at San Francisco. Capt. Karl Kansen of Long Beach, the 39-year-old skipper of the lost schooner, refused to talk about the collision.

Quartermaster Frank Mossman of Martinez, Calif., who was at the Leopard's wheel at the time, said the skipper, Capt. Frank Snow, had come to the bridge to give the customary change of course off Point Sur.

## Bogus Gold Coins Land Man in Jail

Portland — (U.P.) — A Redding, Calif., bus driver was awaiting trial here today on a charge of counterfeiting gold coins which he allegedly sold to two Oregon coin collectors.

Frank J. Kenney, special agent in charge of the Portland office of the U.S. Secret Service, said that two eastern Oregon residents have charged that Joseph Martin Mock, 38, of Redding, sold them \$20 gold coins which were pieces of lead, molded in plaster of paris and electroplated with copper.

Zedell Jackson, La Grande, purchased one of the coins and another was bought by Verne Cathey, Baker. Both sales were reportedly made last summer.

Kenney said that Mock was arrested May 9 in Redding.

## Logging Truck Driver Killed in Coos County

Coos Bay — (U.P.) — Theodora Allen Shellabarger, 46-year-old logger from East Side, Ore., was killed yesterday in a logging truck accident on the Mink Creek grade of the Menasha Plywood operation near here.

Shellabarger was driving a loaded logging truck when it went out of control and struck a rock, causing the load to shift forward and crush him, according to Coos County Coroner Brewer Mills. Gerald Lemmon was riding with Shellabarger, but managed to jump clear and was unhurt.

He said the ship was doing about 17 knots. The Marine Leopard was proceeding south, the Howard Olson north.

**Several Changes Given**  
"In the last 15 minutes, the skipper gave me five or six course changes, all to starboard," Mossman said. "But at the last minute, the other ship shot across our bow. It was then that the captain said, 'Hard right' . . . he seemed to be saying a silent prayer that we could miss her."

But crewmen on the Olson had another version. Barney Jesson, 40, of Long Beach, who was on deck watch at the time, said:

"The Marine Leopard was coming pretty fast. She was on the right course, all right. I figured she'd stay on her course."

"She was showing her green starboard lights, and then she showed both (red port and the green, indicating a head-on approach), then only her red lights (indicating she had swung full toward the Olson)."

"I saw it was unavoidable. I sounded the alarm, then ran down and hollered 'collision!'"

## State Police Dig For Body on Ranch

Salem — (U.P.) — State police continued digging for a body on a ranch southwest of here today after receiving a tip from Marysville, Calif., police of a possible murder.

Officers dug for more than 10 hours without results yesterday after Marysville police told them a Salem man had reported killing a ranch hand about 10 days ago and burying his body in a hole dug to bury dead sheep.

Held on a technical charge at Marysville was Floyd Wayne Smith, 74, who was employed on the W. G. Hanna fruit and sheep ranch near here.

State police said all they had recovered so far was sheep bones.

## Plans for Annual Y Auction Here Are Announced

Plans for the sixth annual Medford YMCA auction and smorgasbord dinner Saturday, May 19, are progressing, according to Sam Jennings, general chairman.

Jennings said W. J. (Bill) Bray will be auctioneer. The event will start at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and a two-hour session will be held Saturday night, starting at 7 p.m.

During the past two weeks, YMCA board members and members of the Y Men's club have been collecting articles. Jennings said. Interested citizens have donated a wide variety of items, he added.

**General Fund**  
The auction is the general fund raising event which the Y holds each year to help make the organization's recreation program available to residents of the valley.

Mrs. Roy Wilkes will be in charge of the sale of smaller articles, which will start at 9 a.m. in the YMCA lobby. The afternoon and evening auctions will be held in the gymnasium.

Tickets for the smorgasbord are available at Home Appliance and Purucker's Piano house. The dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. in the Y Social hall with food prepared by Mrs. Alex Tummers' women's international cookery class at the YMCA.

## Salem Expressway Work Going Rapidly

Salem — (U.P.) — Assistant State Highway Engineer G. S. Paxson said today that construction on the Portland-Salem expressway was proceeding rapidly.

He said paving of the route should be completed about Aug. 1. The southern half of the road was closed 12 days ago to permit the work.

Paxson said the highway commission had received many complaints about closure of the expressway, but he said, "it could have been extremely hazardous to have traffic on the route

## UO Medical School Gets \$200,000 Gift

Portland — (U.P.) — An unidentified donor has given the University of Oregon Medical School a trust fund of securities valued at \$200,000, according to Dr. David W. E. Baird, dean of the school.

The fund, to be used for research projects designated by the dean, will be known as the "Dr. Lawrence Selling Fund" in honor of the Portland physician and professor emeritus of medicine at the school.

The donor, who asked to remain anonymous, said "I am happy to have been able to establish this fund in honor of a man who has devoted so many years to development and advancement of the high standing of the Medical School and the valuable services it has rendered the State of Oregon."

Brazil is officially known as the Republic of the United States of Brazil, according to the law.

## SOC Student Speaks At FTA Meeting

Ashland — Jim McDonald, Southern Oregon college student and state president of the Future Teachers of America, and Miss Florence Allen, faculty adviser, spoke to the regional meeting of the high school branch of the FTA at Douglas high school, May 12, on the topics, "FTA Values," and "Proud To Teach" in that order.

Activities for the meeting were centered around student discussion groups and a faculty panel upon, "What It Means To Teach." Donna Sundberg, treasurer of FTA, and Janet Johnson accompanied Miss Allen and McDonald on the trip as SOC delegates.

There are 22,000 automobiles registered in Venezuela and an estimated 90 per cent of them are American-made.

During the historic Boston Tea Party of 1773, the tea dumped into the harbor was valued at nearly \$90,000.

## Thornton Doesn't Want Write-in Votes

Portland — (U.P.) — Former Gov. Dan Thornton of Colorado has asked Oregon Republicans not

to write his name on their ballots Friday as a vice presidential candidate.

In a letter to Wendell Wyatt, state Republican chairman, Thornton repeated his statement that he was not a candidate for political office. Thornton wrote that he would not approve a campaign to put his name on the ballot and that his sole present interest in politics now was the reelection of President Eisenhower.

## Marion County Jury Dismisses Libel Charge

Salem — (U.P.) — Marion county grand jury ruled yesterday that Dr. Paul V. Mossberg, Portland chiropractor, did not criminally libel Dr. Forrest I. Goddard of Salem when he petitioned to have Goddard ousted as chairman of the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

The jury said the charges were false but that they did not indict Dr. Mossberg because they felt the petition was published "without having a criminal intent to injure or defame."

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