

Italian Climber Tells Of Ordeal in Alps

Editor's note: Claudio Corti, a 23-year-old Italian climber, was the only survivor among four men who tried to scale the "wall of death" on Switzerland's Eiger Mountain. In the following dispatch, dictated from a hospital bed he tells of his eight-day ordeal and his dramatic rescue.

By CLAUDIO CORTI
As Told To United Press
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Interlaken, Switzerland — I have just lived through eight days of snowy hell—eight days and nights on the Eiger north wall in the Alps.
Few men, perhaps fortunately, taste such adventure—of climbing into the unknown, reaching

the point of no return, sudden realization that one is lost and finally the agonizing happiness of rescue.
But of all the memories, two others mean the most.
Couldn't Speak

One is a strange one. It is that I never got to speak to two of the men with whom I shared nearly a week on this wall of death, and who now are dead. They spoke only German and I spoke only Italian.

We shared life and, almost, death—but only through sign language.
The other memory is one of vast sadness.

For five years I searched for a partner to take with me on the Eiger climb. But now he too is dead, my friend Stefano Longhi. My survival seems almost unfair, for I am a bachelor and Stefano left a wife and children.

I am happy to have survived without permanent injury because it will be easier for me to help care for them.
Loved the Mountains

Although I am dictating this from a hospital bed in Interlaken I won't say that I'm through with climbing. As far back as I can remember I have loved the mountains. But now I have had enough—for the time being.

I am a chauffeur by trade from Lecco, in Como Province. I have lived near the mountains all my 29 years.
My biggest wish always was to scale the north wall of Eiger. I think I was well prepared to try.

HOUSE OF DOORS

Romford, England — Philip Tomkins, 53, began a month's jail sentence today for stealing 428 door handles from the hardware store where he worked. Tomkins confessed he stole the handles because he thought they would come in handy in his new home.

Girard Could Get Fine of About \$3

Honolulu — Army Specialist William S. Girard, facing trial for manslaughter in a Japanese court, can be found guilty only of negligence and fined about \$3, a former U. S. chief justice in Germany said Tuesday.

William Clark, 66, outspoken jurist who was fired by Ambassador James B. Conant over a policy dispute, made the comment as he arrived here en route to Tokyo for the Girard trial.

Clark said the Japanese may charge the GI with intentional killing but "I don't see how they can prove it." He said the death of a woman on an American firing range was "a fluke" as she was struck by an empty cartridge case Girard shot from a grenade launcher and this would not ordinarily prove fatal.

Clark, of Princeton, N. J., and former judge of the Third U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia, quoted the Japanese criminal code which states that "persons who cause death of another through negligence shall be punished with a fine of not more than 1,000 yen (about \$3)."

They'll Do It Every Time



Portland Cat Case Youth Held by Cops

Portland — Police said today a teen-age youth who was in trouble in June for taking part in the torture deaths of two cats was picked up as a suspect in a group of juvenile burglaries.

Detective John Caldwell said the youth and six others ranging in age from 13 to 16 were being questioned about burglaries at a food store, a drug store, barber shop, and a cabin, plus stolen automobiles.

SUSPECT GOOD BEHAVIOR

New York — State parole officer David Speck is beginning to wonder if he isn't wasting his time. Speck suspects that one of the parolees who reported to him on good behavior may have stolen \$146.55 in petty cash from his desk drawer.

Oregon Congressional Delegation Asks ICC To Reconsider Rates

Washington — The Interstate Commerce Commission was asked today to reconsider the action of its suspension board in refusing to suspend reduced freight rates on fresh meats and packing house products shipped from the east to Portland, Ore., Seattle, Wash., and other West Coast points.

The request was made by Sens. Wayne Morse and Richard L. Neuberger, and Reps. Edith Green, Al Ullman and Charles O. Porter, all Oregon Democrats. They asked ICC Chairman Owen Clarke for "immediate reconsideration" of the board's action. The delegation said there should be a suspension of the proposed rate reduction in order to provide time for public hearings on the matter.

"Unless the ICC appeals board suspends the proposed drastic rate reductions, irreparable harm will result to an extremely important segment of the economy of the West Coast," they said.

Washington — The three

per cent federal freight tax damages economic and industrial development in the Pacific Northwest more than in any other region of the nation. Senator Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) declares in the August issue of Railway Progress magazine.

Neuberger claims in an article titled "The Tax that Chokes the West" that Oregon lumber, canned fruits and similar products are placed at a serious competitive disadvantage by being "saddled" with the levy. More than half the entire population of the country resides in a relatively small area around eastern cities, he said, and yet the Northwest must ship its products over long freight hauls to be sold, with all the transportation subject to federal freight tax.

"To ship a carload of lumber to Pittsburgh," Neuberger said in the article, "the Oregon sawmill must pay a 40 per cent higher transportation tax than a competing softwood sawmill in Georgia or Alabama."

Grange News

Upper Applegate Grange Danger that the National Grange Headquarters in Washington, D.C., will be swallowed up in a proposed federal building project has been averted for the present, Sister Anna Scott, legislative chairman, reported when Upper Applegate Grange met in regular session Aug. 9.

No funds were appropriated by Congress for erection of the proposed building during the fiscal year 1958, and although the matter may be revived in January, it is believed the Grange site may be omitted from any future legislation due to the storm of protest from Grangers all over the country. Sister Scott also called attention to the National Grange Monthly which she recommended as a non-partisan publication.

Agriculture Chairman James Corson reported one bright spot in the farm picture in the present abundance of feed and reasonable prices for hay which have resulted in better returns to the producer for beef cattle.

Since the subject is one of vital interest to everyone in the area, the agriculture committee plans to present a speaker on the Rogue Basin development program during the lecture hour at the next Grange meeting Aug. 23, Brother Corson announced. Chaplain Kathleen Scovell, reporting for the relief committee, stated Brother Wilfred Pearson, who recently underwent surgery at Sacred Heart hospital in Medford, is convalescing at home, and Sister Grace Pearson is recovering from a sprained leg and foot sustained in a fall. The young daughter of the Harlan Cantrells, who fractured her collar-bone in a fall from a bicycle, is also convalescing at home, it was stated.

Chairman Edna Sawyer of the home economics committee presented an estimate of \$60 as the cost of drapery materials and rods for the meeting room, the drapes to be made by members of the Home Economics club. Since the committee had a \$15 cash balance on hand, and the remaining \$45 required was pledged from among those present at the meeting, the committee was authorized to proceed with the project.

Two new songs were introduced by the music committee

for use in Grange meetings, and were well received by the group.

Tentative plans for having the remainder of the chairs for the meeting room brought down from Portland where they are now in storage, were discussed.

The matter of weatherproofing the exterior of the Grange hall was also discussed and Worthy Master Menno Bachmann agreed to secure comparative prices on standard weatherproofing solution used on this type of structure, and on paint, and to bring this report to the next meeting.

Sister Betty Nicholson was presented and brought greetings from Tualatin Grange of which she is a member. She has been visiting at the home of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Scott on Little Applegate.

Gratitude was expressed on behalf of Upper Applegate Grange to Brother Menno Bachmann and Sister Maude Bachmann for their gift of an electric sign for the Grange hall.

At the conclusion of the business session, some time was devoted to practicing floor work in lieu of a lecturer's program.

During the refreshment hour, Sister Stella Winingham, a charter member, was presented with a birthday cake and the felicitations of all present. Sister Winingham, one of whose hobbies is knitting, recently completed a beautiful knitted lace altar cloth which she presented to the Grange and which is now in use in the meeting room.

Ladies of the Home Economics club composed the hostess committee for the evening, serving refreshments of ice cream, cakes and coffee. They were somewhat inconvenienced by the lack of dishes and silver occasioned by the rifling of locked kitchen cupboards by burglars sometime during the preceding week, but refusing to be daunted by the situation, which had not been discovered until they were ready to serve, they dispensed coffee in water glasses, and offered forks in place of spoons for the ice cream.

All members are reminded that the display table for the next meeting on Aug. 23, will feature interesting objects, pictures, or other items pertaining to Oregon. Each individual is expected to bring something to add to the display and be prepared to tell about it.

AD EXECUTIVE DIES

New York — Gilbert H. Pearsall, 73, former advertising manager of the States Island Advance and who served as an advertising executive on newspapers in Lexington, Ky., Sioux Falls, S.D., Sioux City, Iowa, and Meridan, Miss., died Monday.

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FBI Agents Hunt For Spy's Money

New York — FBI agents searched today for a large sum of money supposedly buried in the New York area by Russia master spy Rudolf Ivanovich Abel for use in financing his espionage ring.

One high official said the Soviet intelligence officer had hidden an estimated \$50,000 in New York City and in parts of Long Island. A search for additional money also was reported in Poughkeepsie, 75 miles north of New York, where Abel allegedly had sought to set up a short wave radio station for espionage purposes.

The search for the money was disclosed shortly after FBI agents Tuesday found \$15,000 in cash in a safe deposit box Abel had rented in a branch of the Manufacturers Trust Company under the name of Alan Wins-

Five Measles Cases Reported in Medford

Measles cases in the county returned to the list of communicable diseases reported during the week of Aug. 9 after being absent from the report the previous week. Five cases were reported in Medford according to the Jackson county department of health.

Other diseases reported last week include pneumonia, four in Medford and one each in Ashland and Jacksonville; one infectious mononucleosis in Medford; two strep throats, one each in Central Point and Eagle Point; one impetigo in Medford; and one case each in Central Point and Eagle Point of whooping cough.

ton. When arrested June 21 at his hotel room here, Abel had \$6,000 in cash, according to the FBI. Authorities have speculated that Abel was aware he was under FBI surveillance and had planned to use the money to flee the country.



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