

Climbers Lost In Storm on Mt. Hood

Lost during a blinding storm on the south slope of Mt. Hood, two Hood River men, Bob Fuller and Blanchard Baldwin, through resourcefulness and keeping their heads, spent Sunday night on the mountain and emerged from the experience with no ill effects.

They had started to climb Mt. Hood from Legion Camp at 3 a. m. Sunday morning, expecting to descend on the south side to Timberline Lodge. Progress was slow for the climbers in the soft snow in the timber, as they were climbing without snow shoes. However, the snow was well packed at the higher levels. When they got near the summit a sudden storm hit with all its fury. Ice and snow was blown before a strong wind with such force that it was literally driven through their clothing. Because of hazardous spots further down the trail,

the boys thought it impractical to retrace their steps, and believing the storm to be limited to the north side of the mountain, they made their way to the summit. "We were only able to identify the summit because we were through climbing and by the post and coil of rope stationed there," Fuller said.

Temperature at the summit was estimated as zero, and visibility would have been chalked at almost a similar figure. Their breath condensed and froze ice on their noses; eyelids would freeze shut when the eyes were closed and freeze open when they weren't closed. Clothing became a mass of ice, and was penetrated by more ice driven by the gale.

Couldn't See Each Other

The climbers started their descent at 12:30, having made the summit in nine and one-half hours. They were tied together, 15 feet apart, and the snow was so dense they could not see each other.

Uncertain of direction, they found their way down the south slope. Crater rock could not be seen. By 4 o'clock they reached the timber, where they thought it best to conserve strength, rather than roam around trying to find their bearings. With ice axes they cut boughs for shelter and built a fire. A water-proof tin of matches and a candle aided in starting the fire. They were well supplied with food.

The climbers thawed and dried their clothing and slept a little during the night. When dawn broke, the atmosphere was clear and they discovered they were camped in the canyon of the little Zig-Zag. Familiar landmarks presented themselves, including the ski bowl of the south slope. They made their way to the highway and started toward Government Camp. They attempted to flag a ride from a forest service car, but the driver shouted he was in too big a hurry to stop. It later developed the

forest ranger in the car was hurrying to organize a searching party for Fuller and Baldwin. They finally procured a ride to Government Camp, where they were returned to Hood River, and both appeared on the streets yesterday, looking quite normal, except for wind-burn.

When Fuller and Baldwin failed to arrive on the south side, a searching party was arranged in Hood River. Preparations were made for building a cook shack and Ted Hackett, local radio man, set to work arranging a short-wave radio to be used by the searching party. A large number of Crag Rats and local mountain climbers volunteered to join the searching party early Monday morning. Jesse Crenshaw, who had left the climbers Sunday morning at Legion Camp and driven to Government Camp to meet them, had returned to Hood River, and at 1 o'clock Monday morning he was on his way to the north slope to help search for the missing boys.

Land Transactions

Between the dates, January 11 and January 18, three deeds were recorded in Hood River County, as follows.

Ore. Lbr. Co., a corp., to F. L. Aldridge, deed, conveys tract 660 ft. square in NE 1/4 NW 1/4 Sec. 24, T 1--About 1 1/2 miles SW of Dee.

Albert B. and Della E. Rush to Horace C. Gilkerson and Veryl O., warranty deed, conveys the N. 136 feet of the West 600 feet of the East 800 feet of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Sec. 34, T 2--Odell.

Joseph O. and Argonia Fletcher to John W. and Mary L. Lawrence, warranty deed, conveys Lots 17 and 18 in Block 6, Stranahan's Third Addn. to Hood River City.

Recipes . . .

RECIPE

Mince Meat Filled Cookies

1 cup butter, 1 cup light brown sugar, 2 eggs, 2 cups ground rolled oats, 1 1/2 cups flour, 1 tsp. soda, 1 cup mince meat, 1 tsp. cornstarch. Cream butter and add sugar gradually. Add well beaten eggs, rolled oats, flour and soda. Turn on floured board and roll. Bake. When done put two cookies together with mince meat thickened with cornstarch. Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Makes 30 double cookies.

If family is large use two pans when making pancakes and fritters. It will save time, supply more people and cakes are better when not crowded.

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