SEVEN HOPELESS DAYS OF ANGUISH

Roman Nose and Cohorts Make Charge on Beecher's Island

HE IS LAST SURVIVOR

Major McGinley of Guthrie Is Only Man Living Who Took Part in the Battle

By C. M. SARCHET

PONCA CITY, April 30.—There is no story more thrilling to the reader of the American soldier than that of the "Brave 51" men, the survivors of the first troop of "Rough Riders" who fought for their lives against 1,000 painted Indians on Beecher's island in the Arickaree fork of the Republican river in Colorado on September 16, 1868, and so far as known the only survivor of the few who finally were rescued from the Indians is Major N. D. McGinley of Guthrie, this state. He was the youngest of the 54 men, who were selected for the "Rough Rider" troop by General Phil Sheridan, and also one of the youngest men in the entire army during the period immediately following the close of the Civil war.

History records that the defense of Beecher's island has nothing to excel it in the matter of demonstrating the courage of true frontiersmen. For seven days the scouts battled desperately against the overwhelming hosts of Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, who at that time were under the leadership of their greatest war leader, Roman Nose. Breastworks of sand were thrown up, and from behind these and the bodies of their dead horses the scouts fought with a desperation that was not surpassed even by the defenders of the Alamo or by the men who were with the "Lost Battalion" overseas during the world war.

In selecting the 54 "Rough Riders" for special duty against the Indians General Sheridan, the man in command at that time against the Indians in western Kansas, considered these qualifications: Courage, power of endurance, perfect marksmanship, and knowledge of the Indian character. The 54 were picked from a possible 2,000 all applicants for a place on this troop under General Forsythe, a member of Sheridan's staff. The most youthful of the 54 was N. D. McGinley, then still in his 'teens.

Indians Were on Warpath.

The western and plains tribes of Indians had taken adventage of the Civil war to go on the warpath throughout the west, and in western Kansas in particular the settlers had suffered unmercifully from raids and massacres. The chief tribes in that section were the Cheyennes and Arapahoes and under Roman Nose they had become a well-trained band of warriors. The condition became so bad that General Sheridan, who had just closed a very successful career in the Civil war, was sent to Fort Harker in western Kansas to take active charge. He outlined the plan for a troop of expert marksmen to continue on the trail of the Indians, blazing the way for an unceasing winter campaign in 1868. The plan was approved by both generals Custer and Sully, both already famous as Indian fighters and then next in rank in the west to Sheridan.

The 54 men selected were stationed at either Fort Harker or Fort Hays. General Forsythe chose for his first lieutenant his particular friend, Fred H. Beecher of the Third infantry, a nephew of the great Brooklyn preacher, Henry Ward Beecher. Several days were consumed at Harker in outfitting the "Rough Riders," although no unnecessary or superfluous equipment formed any part of the supplies, and there were no wagons or tents. Pack mules carried the commissary stores, which were of the simplest character as the known object of the party was war. Each man had an excellent horse and his armament consisted of a breech-loading rifle and two revolvers.

Started in Late August.

Forsythe's scouts, among whom was the still-renowned Jack Stilwell, left Harker on August 29, and soon got on the trail of the Indians, who had just pulled off a raid and massacre on a government wagon train near Sheridan station on the Kansas Pacific railroad. The trail was followed northward toward the republican river, and on the night of September 15, the scouts went into camp for the night on a small island in the Arickaree. It was chosen because of its strategic value by Jack Stilwell and Tom Murphy two of the scouts. The men had only one day's rations on hand but preferred keeping on the fresh trail of the Indians to turning back for supplies.

During the night 1,000 Indian warriors under Roman Nose surrounded the island and at dawn made an attack. Fortunately there were some stunted shrubs growing on the island and to these the men tied their horses and pack mules, using them for breastworks. The Indians were well armed having secured both guns and ammunition from renegade white traders. On the hills, but out of rifle range, were the women and children of the Indians, watching and urging their warriors to deeds of daring. The scouts saw but little prospects of getting out alive but determined to die rather than become prisoners, knowing their fate would be worse than death if in the hands of Roman Nose's band.

Dug Rifle Pits With Hands.

The scouts had nothing but their hands with which to work in entrenching themselves, but they managed to dig a fairly good rifle pit. Two of them were killed while this work was in progress, in addition to many being wounded, including General Forsythe. The doctor with the party was killed while fighting with the men, and by noon all the horses and mules had been slain by the Indians rifle shot.

Roman Nose then ordered a grand charge. The charging column was composed of about 150 "dog soldiers" and about 500 other Cheyenne and Arapaho warriors all led by Roman Nose in person, Superbly mounted, almost naked, although in full war dress, and painted in the most hideous manner, formed with a front of about 60 men, they awaited the signal of Roman Nose to advance with the greatest confidence. He signaled first to his dismounted men beyond his line of horsemen to fire into the scouts and thus make his contemplated charge more effective. At the moment of the fusillade, seeing that the scouts were stunned by the fire, Roman Nose and his band of mounted warriors, with a wild warwhoop that was echoed by the women and children on the hills, started forward.

No Ammunition Wasted.

Each man on the island was a sharpshooter and their orders were to waste no ammunition. Each rifle bullet must mean the death of an Indian. The unmounted Indians were forced to cease firing in order not to hit their mounted warriors, and at this moment Forsythe ordered his men to fire. Each bullet did mean an Indian's death, and Roman Nose fell dead from his horse when the foremost line of the red men was within but ten feet of the scouts' rifle pit. His death momentarily halted the warriors and another volley from the island forced a retreat. During the charge Lieutenant Beecher was mortally wounded.

Several times before night the Indians formed and charged again, but each time the scouts' rifle fire was so effective as to force a retreat, each time with a greater loss to the attackers. When night came, four troopers were dead, General Forsythe had been shot twice, many of the men were wounded, the animals were all dead, the commissariat was empty! Water was easily obtainable, however, and for food great steaks were cut from the flank of the dead horses.

At midnight a council of war was held and it was decided to send runners to Fort Wallace for re-enforcements. Three men volunteered, Jack Stilwell, John Donovan and A. Truedell. They crawled from the island to run the gauntlet of the Indians. The men on the island had no way of knowing whether or not their comrades succeeded, and after another day of hell two other men were sent out, the second night. They could not evade the vigilance of the Indians, however, and were turned back. This unsuccessful attempt disheartened the troopers as they feared that none of the runners had got through the lines.

The Indians in the meantime had withdrawn to concealed places on the hills, out of rifle shot the most of the time, awaiting until starvation and death would force the remainder of the men to surrender. During the third night two more runners were dispatched. Five days and nights were passed on the island, and in the meantime gangrene had started in the men's wounds and they were all suffering lack of food. The only thing to eat was the putrid, decaying flesh of the horses and mules. Forsythe gave permission to any man, who wanted to try, to leave camp but all voted to remain with him.

There were two more days and nights of torture, seven in all, and then on the ridge in early morning were seen the rifles of a rescuing force. Donovan, Stilwell and Truedell had broken through the lines and traveled 90 miles on foot to Fort Wallace. Immediately Colonel Carpenter of the Tenth cavalry and his command were dispatched in haste and Forsythe and his men were saved.

The Indians had sentinels posted who brought in word of the approach of re-enforcements and got away, but later during the winter that followed they were completely routed by General Custer in person, at the head of detachment of cavalry and Osage Indian scouts, on the Washita river in western Oklahoma.

In history this gallant stand by Forsythe's "Rough Riders" is known as the battle of the Arickaree, although the island has since borne the name of the young lieutenant who was killed, Beecher. For years the survivors held reunions annually, on the island and the states of Kansas and Colorado have erected a monument there, the battlefield being about 18 miles south of Wray, Colo.

The scalp lock and hunting shirt of Roman Nose, the Indian general have been in the possession of Major Gordon Lillie (Pawnee Bill) at his museum, near Pawnee, Okla., for many years.

May Reserve The Home Where 'Old Kentucky Home' Originated

"Federal Hill," the old Rowan home-stead at Bardstown, Ky., and the old secretary at which Foster wrote "My Old Kentucky Home."

Special to The World

BARDSTOWN, Ky., April 30.—Kentuckians everywhere, at home or expatriates, have been asked to contribute to the purchase and preservation of the old Rowan estate, "Federal Hill," at Bardstown, Ky., where Stephen Collins Foster wrote "My Old Kentucky Home" in the summer of 1852 and where it was for the first time sung to listeners. The old mansion and grounds are to be preserved as a state shrine.

The estate has been in the Rowan family since 1795, when the fine old mansion was built. Its owner, Mrs. Madge Rowan Frost, granddaughter of former Chief Justice John Rowan, has consented to convey the 236-acre estate to the state for $50,000. At the last session of the legislature a commission to establish a state park of the estate was authorized. Governor Morrow appointed on this committee A. T. Hert, republican national committeeman; Judge Robert W. Bingham, owner of the Louisville Courier-Journal and Times; C. Lee Cook and Young E. Allison, Louisville; Arch H. Pullam, Bardstown; Mrs. Clement French, Maysville, and Harry Giovannoli, Lexington newspaper man.

The committee has decided to raise a fund of $100,000 by small contributions and after purchasing the home, restore it and beautify the grounds, when it will be presented to the state to be administered by a board of regents much after the manner of the Lincoln farm, the martyred president's birthplace, or Mt. Vernon, the home of Washington on the Potomac. If 2,500,000 Kentuckians should contribute 4 cents each, the fund would be raised. Marc Klaw, New York theatrical magnate, native of Kentucky, was the first contributor, giving $2,500.

THE MAN WHO GAMBLES WITH HIS HEALTH—

Is the Worst Kind of Gambler

The end of the money gambler may be financial ruin—the end of the health gambler may be death and financial suicide as well.

Money gambling is recognized as such a serious menace to the welfare of human beings that it is prohibited by the most severe laws, yet THE MAN WHO GAMBLES WITH HIS HEALTH COMMITS A FAR GREATER CRIME AGAINST HIMSELF THAN THE MAN WHO GAMBLES WITH HIS MONEY.

When you go on from day to day in a weak, nervous, run-down condition YOU ARE GAMBLING just as much as the man who sits at the gaming table and loses his money on the shake of the dice box, only he is gambling with his MONEY, and you are gambling with your HEALTH, YOUR FUTURE and perhaps even YOUR LIFE.

Your vitality and powers of resistance are below par and you are in a condition to become an EASY PREY to almost any of the THOUSANDS OF DISEASE GERMS that inhabit the minute particles of dust that you inhale; that float in the very air you breathe, that may already be lying dormant in your body waiting and watching for you to become weak enough for them to attack, just LIKE A HUNGRY WILD BEAST STALKS ITS PREY.

You would not stake the health of your children nor the life of your wife on a guess of the color of a card, nor the ownership of your home on a turn of the wheel of fortune, but you put your health and perhaps your all in the dice box of chance—you shake it a few times saying "I am weak," "I'm run-down," "I'm nervous," "I don't sleep well at night," "I get all tired-out at the end of the day, but I hope I'll get all right soon"—yes you hope—but out come the dice perhaps all "loaded" against you—you were "framed up" before you took the box—you don't get all right, on the contrary you go on from day to day getting weaker and weaker. A simple remedy like Nuxated Iron might have saved you and put you right if you had taken it in time; taken it before you had any real organic disease; taken it when you only needed something to build you up and put more rich, red blood into your veins; but now it is too late for Nuxated Iron, perhaps too late for your doctor too—you gambled and lost as thousands do.

Any doctor will tell you, that the surest way to keep yourself from contracting almost any disease, from an ordinary cold, or tonsilitis to pneumonia, rheumatism, tuberculosis, or even cancer is to keep plenty of pure, rich, red blood in your veins and take care that you have the physical strength and endurance to develop within you those mysterious powerful "anti-bodies" that nature made to fight the millions of deadly disease germs that would take your life.

When, as a result of iron starvation, you get up feeling tired in the morning, when you find yourself nervous, irritable and easily upset; when you can no longer do your day's work without being all fagged out at night; or have pains across the back and your face looks pale and drawn, do not wait until you go all to pieces and collapse in a state of nervous prostration or until in your weakened condition you contract some serious disease, but take organic NUXATED IRON at once to help enrich your blood and revitalize your worn-out, exhausted nerves.

In addition to organic iron, Nuxated Iron also contains a remarkable product, brought to the attention of the French Academy of Medicine by the celebrated Dr. Robin, which represents the principal chemical constituent of active living nerve force, FOR FEEDING THE NERVES, so that NUXATED IRON might be said to be both a BLOOD and a NERVE FOOD.

If you are not strong or well, you owe it to yourself to make the following test: See how long you can work or how far you can walk without becoming tired. Next take two 5-grain tablets of ordinary Nuxated Iron three times per day after meals for two weeks. Then test your strength again and see how much you have gained. Thousands of normally run-down men and women, who are weak and ailing all the while, have surprisingly increased their strength and endurance in two weeks time in many instances by this simple experiment.

Over 4,000,000 people annually are using NUXATED IRON. It will not injure the teeth nor disturb the stomach. Your money will be refunded by the manufacturers if you do not obtain perfectly satisfactory results. Beware of substitutes. Always insist on having genuine organic iron—NUXATED IRON. Look for the letters N. I. on every tablet. At all druggists.

NUXATED IRON ENRICHES THE BLOOD-GIVES YOU NEW STRENGTH AND ENERGY

DODGE BROTHERS COUPE

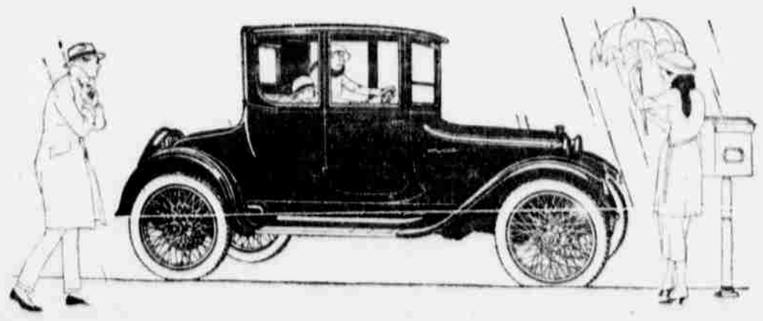
When comfort is complete and cost of operation at the minimum there is little more to be desired in a closed car.

The Coupe adds to those qualities real beauty of design and excellent good taste

The gasoline consumption is unusually low. The tire mileage is unusually high.

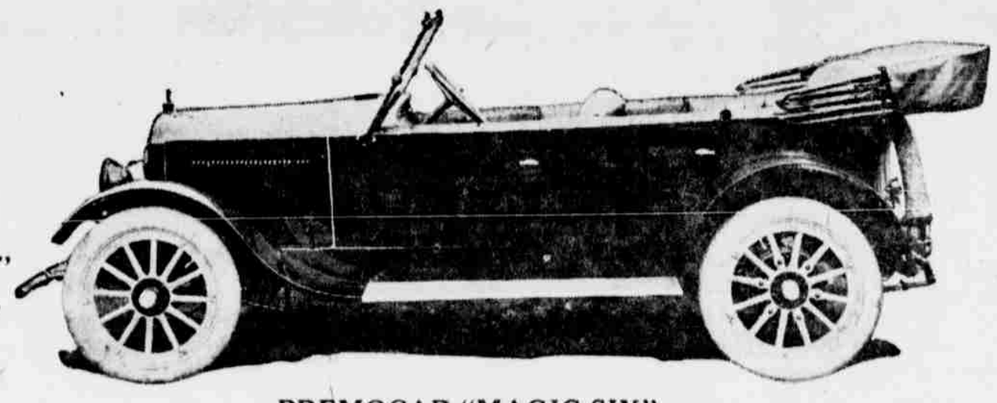
Norval & Dial

718 So. Boston Osage 6440-1-2



The Premocar "Magic Six"

Premocar Parts and Premocar Service Always Available at 103-5 W. Second St., Tulsa. Phone Cedar 2656



$1295

f. o. b. Birmingham, Ala.

Easy Terms

PREMOCAR "MAGIC SIX"
117-inch Wheel Base

PREMOCAR Is a Beautiful Six-Cylinder Automobile of Standard Units at a Medium Price

Compare These Specifications With Higher Priced Cars

ENGINE—3 1/8 in. bore, 4 1/4 in. stroke, 6-cylinder, latest type overhead valve enclosed motor, of light weight and unusual power and flexibility. Helical gear camshaft drive.

COOLING—Thermo-syphon, or natural. Service fan used.

RADIATOR—Own make. Designed to obtain maximum efficiency from motor. Latest design straight front baked enamel case used.

LUBRICATION—Force feed and splash.

FUEL FEED—Stewart vacuum feed from 15 gallon tank in rear.

CARBURETOR—Stromberg or Zenith, especially adapted to use on this motor.

IGNITION—Connecticut. The new "Toggle Switch" being used on instrument board. Supplied with automatic cutout switch.

ELECTRIC CIGAR LIGHTER.

PARKING LIGHT—on individual switch.

LIGHTING—Dyneto: large double bulb headlights of special design.

STARTING—Dyneto double unit starter and generator.

CLUTCH—Borg & Beck 10 in. multiple disc.

GEARSET—Muncie unit gearset. Noted for its durability and quietness of operation. Three speeds forward and one reverse.

UNIVERSAL—Spicer make. Two jointed Hotchkiss drive.

REAR AXLE—Timken-Detroit semi-floating type. This axle has given more complete satisfaction than any other now on the market. Before being supplied on The Premocar its use has been confined almost entirely to the more expensive cars.

SPRINGS — Semi-elliptic Vanadium steel. Rear springs 56 in. in length.

WHEELBASE—117 in. Wood wheels.

DISC WHEELS—Net extra, $75.00.

WIRE WHEELS—Net extra, $75.00.

TIRES—33x4 Goodyear or Goodrich. Firestone rims.

STEERING GEAR—Ditweiler.

HORN—Klaxon.

SPEEDOMETER—Stewart.

BATTERY—Willard 6-volt storage.

FRAME—Specially heat treated 7 3/4 in. channel steel frame.

BODY—Made in our own shops. A finished piece of work. Each joint is mortised, glued and screwed, being further braced by a liberal supply of forged bracing irons. The general design, while not freakish, embodies all that the dictates of good taste and the progress in this field demands.

EASY PAYMENTS TO RESPONSIBLE BUYERS

Phone Cedar 2656 for a Demonstration

Premocar Motor Company

State Distributors
THE PREMOCAR "MAGIC SIX"
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Office and Salesroom 103-5 West Second Street