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TWO DROWN IN COLUMBIA

AUTOS AND OCCUPANTS DROP
FROM FERRY BOAT INTO
FAST CURRENT

Divers Fail to Find Body of Mrs.
Crain, but Car Is Located
on River Bottom

After making a 1000-mile trip through eastern Washington, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Crain of Pasco met disaster at the Bossburg ferry last week Thursday afternoon, and the body of Mrs. Crain has not been located, although the automobile was found in 20 feet of water in a 10-mile current 70 feet below the scene of the accident.

Wm. Simmonds, diver of Spokane, and Homer E. Miller of Colville, made several descents in an effort to locate the body, there having been hope that Mrs. Crain would be found in the car. But the body had been washed away, and the car was drawn up by windlass from a raft Tuesday night, some of the tools remaining in the car. Boats have been used this week to search for the body along the shores below the ferry.

A letter from C. W. Clepper of Marcus gives a good description of the assistance rendered by S. A. Tucker who was crossing on the ferry on his way to Marble:

"Mr. Crain had a little accident before reaching the ferry in descending the steep hill at the west side of the river, his car having run against a stump which slightly bent up the machine and his wife was thrown up against the top of the car, bumping her head quite severely. Mr. Crain in reaching the ferry told Mr. Tucker and his brother of the incident, stating that they very nearly had a serious accident and also that it had been about the first they had experienced during their trip of nearly 1000 miles.

"It was only a few minutes later that Mr. Crain drove his machine onto the ferry and stopped. The ferryman suggested that he move his car a little and when the machine was started up he must have lost control of same as it plunged head-first into the river, breaking the chain and posts at the end of the boat.

"Mr. Tucker's first thought was to jump in, but at second thought he obtained the boat and started after the wreckage which seemed to float on the surface of the river for several minutes before going down. As soon as he started for the scene Mr. Crain came up off to one side of the wreckage and probably 50 to 75 yards from the bank of the river, and apparently half drowned. As soon as he saw Mr. Tucker in the boat he began shouting for help, stating that he was completely exhausted. Mr. Tucker then turned his boat after assuring himself that Mr. Crain could not reach the shore. He shouted to Mr. Crain to swim to shore and that he would endeavor to get his wife, but Mr. Crain was too weak to even help himself into the boat, holding on until Mr. Tucker rowed to shore.

"Mr. Crain says that he tried with all his might to get his wife out when the car left the ferry boat, but that she was fast and that he could not disentangle her. The top of the car probably held her in, or it may be that she grabbed on to the seat when she noticed the car was going into the river.

"As it was near train time Mr. Tucker had his brother, who lives across the river from Bossburg, and was a witness of the disaster, go to a nearby Indian's home and obtain his services with his boat to try and get some of the wreckage and endeavor to locate the woman and the car."

Girl Drowns on Wednesday

The Columbia river took the toll of a second life when on Wednesday little Helen Wilbur, aged 7, of Marcus, was drowned as the Chalmers auto driven by her brother backed off the Marcus ferry and plunged into 25 feet of water.

The Wilbur family lives on a ranch across the Columbia river from Marcus. In the auto were Jack Wilbur, age 17, at the wheel; his sister Vera, age 14, beside him; and in the rear seat were his sisters Fay, age 11, and Helen, age 7.

The children left Marcus for their home and the ferry had reached the other side of the river when the ferryman, James Mullen, opened the

gate to let the car leave the ferry. Jack threw on his power and the car jumped back, broke through the guard on the ferry and plunged into the river. The engine apparently was in the reverse and when the power was applied went backward instead of forward as the driver intended and expected.

Jack and Vera, being on the front seat and good swimmers, were able to save themselves. Mullen jumped into the river and saved Fay, but Helen, caught in the rear seat, was never seen and apparently went down with the automobile.

The ferryman and the children were powerless to do effective work with the machine in water so deep and the children went sobbing home in their wet clothes to tell the tale of their lost sister to their father M. Wilbur, who was confined to the home in bed.

WINGHAM DEVELOPS SPEED IN THE PICTURE GAME

The following from the Bulletin of the Mutual Distributing corporation, New York, has reference to the exceptionally good work being done by Langdon Wingham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Wingham, who has been in the motion picture work for several years:

"The award of the president's cup for the month of June to the Seattle branch, of which 'Butch' Wingham is the manager, should provide an inspiration to every man in the organization. This is the second time since January 1 that a branch managed by Wingham has won a cup. Portland, which took the cup in February, was then under Mr. Wingham's management, and as a reward for his splendid work in Portland he was promoted to managership of the branch at Seattle.

"Wingham began work with the Mutual in the poster room and a year and a half ago was poster clerk in the Los Angeles branch. Joe L. Merrick, then branch manager at Los Angeles, recognized his ability and gave him an opportunity to sell. He picked out the Arizona territory for Wingham's initial trip—Arizona being the toughest territory in Los Angeles branch.

"Wingham started out with a statement that if he did not beat every record that had been made in Arizona he wouldn't stop when he reached the Rio Grande. On his first trip he rang the bell in every town he went into, and since that day he has been a star salesman. When a vacancy occurred at Portland he was selected by Mr. Rollo to become branch manager at Portland, and when Seattle became vacant he was promoted to Seattle.

"Mr. Wingham's experience is in line with the policy of the Mutual to advance men from the ranks to positions of responsibility when vacancies occur.

"A branch managership is within the reach of every employee of this company and an executive position within the reach of every branch manager."

IMPORTANT CHANGE IN LAW ON MINING ASSESSMENTS

An important change in assessment requirements for mining claims was made by congress in August, as follows:

Joint resolution to suspend the requirements of annual assessment work on certain mining claims during the year 1919.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in congress, assembled, that the provisions of section 2824 of the revised statutes of the United States which requires on each mining claim located, and until a patent has been issued therefor, not less than \$100 worth of labor to be performed or improvements aggregating such amount to be made during each year, be, and the same is hereby, suspended during the calendar year 1919: Provided, that no such suspension shall be granted to any one claimant for more than five claims: Provided, that every claimant of any such mining claim in order to obtain the benefits of this resolution shall file or cause to be filed in the office where the location notice or certificate is recorded, on or before December 31, 1919, a notice of his desire to hold said mining claim under this resolution.

Sec. 2. That this resolution shall not be construed to alter, modify, amend, or repeal the public resolution entitled "Joint resolution to relieve the owners of mining claims who have been mustered into the military or naval service of the United States as officers or enlisted men from performing assessment work during the term of such service," approved July 17, 1919.

Approved August 15, 1919.

DEATH CAUSED BY PITCHFORK

BROTHERS-IN-LAW QUARREL
OVER HORSE, WITH FATAL
EFFECT TO ONE

Authorities and Relatives Claim
Slayer Is Insane, and Actions
Tend to Confirm Opinion

Earl Ray Strickler, aged 23, is in the county jail awaiting trial for the killing of Ross H. Donaldson, his brother-in-law, aged 30, on the A. H. Nettleton farm near Rice Sunday afternoon.

Donaldson was struck on the head with a pitchfork, and immediately rendered unconscious, dying at 2:30 Monday morning.

No one heard or saw the altercation and as Donaldson never regained consciousness, only the story of Strickler was available.

He claimed Donaldson was beating a horse and he could stand it no longer to witness the punishment of the animal and involuntarily used the pitchfork. The sheriff's office was notified and Frank Ham and H. M. Dorman, deputy sheriffs, went to the Nettleton ranch and brought Strickler to Colville where he is in jail oblivious to the fact that Donaldson is dead.

Strickler was born in Quincy, Ill., and came with his parents to Spokane about 16 years ago. About four years ago he came to Rice with his twin brother Ernest. Donaldson and L. D. Monday married the two Strickler sisters and reside near Rice. The father of the Stricklers disappeared some years ago and the mother died in 1917.

The officers as well as relatives of the prisoner declare that he is demented. He stated at the sheriff's office that he was heavily interested in banking and owned a mine at Springdale.

The prisoner showed no concern over the death of Donaldson, but on Tuesday told a visitor that he had been told that the horse was in bad shape. As no one had been admitted to see him, the source of his information could only be guessed by the sheriff. On Wednesday the prisoner informed the editor of the Examiner that he was temporarily in jail because of a slight misunderstanding.

Strickler stated that he was getting to be an old man, and that he was either 87 or 88 years of age.

No inquest was held over the body of Donaldson, and burial was at Garden Valley in Ferry county. Strickler is not married. Donaldson leaves a widow and two children.

It is understood that a charge of murder will be presented, and that a defense of insanity will be interposed. Imprisonment in the criminal ward at Medical Lake would be the result, should a jury decide that a murder was committed by an insane person.

Officers and members of the Stevens County Tuberculosis league met with the commissioners Wednesday morning and formally presented the matter of the employment of a county tuberculosis nurse.

The principal discussion was with regard to the financial advisability of maintaining a county nurse, who could also serve as matron in cases of delinquency, and who could aid in cutting the annual cost of maintaining indigents who are incapacitated by illness, and generally by tuberculosis. The matter was received favorably by the commissioners, who stated that there was an imperative need for greater attention to preventable disease. However, the question of finance is not an easy one in Stevens county, the 8 mill current expense levy not being great enough to care for all the needed expenditures. It is believed that the county league will endeavor to raise part of the funds necessary to secure a tuberculosis nurse, relieving part of the expense from the county funds. Inability to immediately secure a nurse properly trained for this work may delay her employment until late next spring. Five counties in Washington have applications ahead of this county, and there are no prospects of filling but two of these immediately. The demand for county tuberculosis nurses is nation-wide, and Stevens county expects to maintain her place in the procession toward better health. The county tuberculosis hospital has been in operation some time, with excellent financial saving to the county, this

county having taken a lead over many larger counties in this respect.

STEAMSHIP SERVICE ON THE COLUMBIA VIA NORTHPORT

The Spokane Falls & Northern railroad has completed arrangements by which the people of Spokane will be able to take a delightful trip over a portion of the country new to most of them. Trains on that road are now run in connection with a line of palatial steamers on the Columbia, changing from the cars to the steamer at the end of the railroad about four miles below Northport, thence via Northport, passing through lovely and grand scenery, through the lower and upper Arrow lakes, finally arriving at Arrowhead, the end of navigation, thence over a stub railroad to Revelstoke on the main line of the Canadian Pacific, and according to the arrangements referred to the Spokane Falls & Northern will sell tickets through to Banff, Vancouver, Victoria, and other points in British Columbia, good returning via Tacoma or Portland, for \$50. The tickets are limited to 60 days, which will give plenty of time to see the points of interest in the places mentioned.

The above item may seem surprising to the residents of Stevens county, but the good news is not really new. In fact, it is old. To be exact, it is 27 years old, having been printed in the Northport News 27 years ago.

John G. Kulzer of Valley and Louis G. Keller of Colville represented Stevens county at the state good roads meeting at Yakima this week, and Mr. Kulzer was named on the executive committee for the coming year as representing this county. The \$30,000,000 plan for a bonding issue for the state was indorsed, and resolutions were adopted urging maintenance of adequate detours during highway construction; favoring rapid development of highways in neglected districts, particularly large agricultural sections, to afford farmers better market facilities; that dangerous curves in highways be eliminated where practical; indorsing principles embodied in the proposed Townsend federal highway law, now pending in the United States senate; asking study and report by the executive committee of a suitable system of maintenance of stations along highways; investigation of means for preservation of forests along the highways; executive committee to study means of financing a bridge across the Columbia river at or near Pasco, and extending thanks to Yakima citizens and commercial club for favors shown delegates to the convention.

Horace R. Williams and family returned last week from a three-months trip through eastern states. Some of the points visited were Omaha, Chicago, St. Louis, Salt Lake, Denver. They made an auto trip through Indiana, and visited the Howard W. Stull family at Johnstown, Pa., and in their trip through the state of New York they visited Mrs. L. M. Peck and daughter Miss Gussie Peck at Canisteo. They stopped at Niagara Falls, and took the lake trip to Cleveland. Mr. Williams says he saw real evidences of general prosperity in the east, and that good automobiles and concrete road building are the vogue.

FRANK B. GOETTER



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