

The Story Told of Deaths of Youths

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Officers from Camp Quinn River and Camp Paradiise, in charge of the search for the bodies of the youths.

by the United States forest service began a race with a thorough study of the burned area. Jim, who arrived in Winnemucca Sunday morning, Utah, and who is associate regional forester, C. M. Woods.

of a death board of army officers is expected to be held in the near future. A preliminary investigation was launched Sunday.

Government officers of the division of grazing and forest service attended the inquest today. Some government investigations are expected to be completed in a few days.

When the body was discovered, the bodies were found by searchers in three different locations. The body was the first to be discovered after that of 17 men had been trapped within the canyon.

His body, burned almost beyond recognition, lay downward and his arms curled under his head. The body was discovered at 9:00 o'clock.

The body was found, it was revealed that a compound fracture of the right ankle had been sustained. The flames had raced upon him. Searching for the body to reconstruct the story of his death, he became panicky and ran. In attempting to cross a 15-foot wide gully in a small draw to the west, he fell into the darkness had enveloped the scene. Kennedy was unable to move and watched the racing flames take him to his doom.

When the fire after they had been sent to their respective camps for much-needed rest. Forming a chain across the burned area, which measures five miles wide by three miles long, the 300 men, walking at intervals of 20 feet apart, acted as a chain across the entire devastated area, but searching up until late Saturday night proved fruitless.

BELIEVED DEAD

Another crew of some 150 enrollees from Camp Paradiise and Camp Quinn River, again started out in search of Vitale. Some believe that Vitale had wandered into the rim rocks and had fallen to death while others believe he might have wandered off across the hills although the reigning opinion was that he had burned to death and that his charred body would be found in the burned area.

His body was stumbled upon at 10:30 o'clock Sunday morning only a short distance from a large body of protective rocks. Whether the panic-stricken youth did not know that he had crossed a creek filled with water, which might have provided safety for him, is not known. In his haste, he had jumped across Rock Creek and was making his way up the mountain-side to the rocky knoll when the roaring flames enveloped him. Vitale's body was found more than one mile north of the other four.

BADLY BURNED

All bodies were burned almost beyond recognition with the larger part of their clothes burned from their bodies and only the charred portions of their shoes remaining. Their facial features were destroyed largely, and only through governmental records of each individual, and from records of whom the men were in the crew of Tippin's was the information gained as to their identity. A thorough check of the records was made at the Edna T. Eddy mortuary here Saturday to officially establish the boys' true identity.

Bodies of Kennedy, Barker, Tippin and James were brought to Winnemucca and the Eddy mortuary Saturday morning while Vitale's body was brought in Sunday morning. The bodies of the five youths will be shipped to their respective homes tonight at 9:35 o'clock aboard a Southern Pacific passenger car.

all officers and enrollees in charge of the search for the bodies of the youths.

Rites will be conducted outside of the church with Father Francis Mikula of the Catholic church, Father Leo B. DeMare of the Church of St. Mary, the Virgin, Rev. Fr. Howard Hill of the Methodist church, and a representative of the Church of Latter Day Saints attending.

CHAPLAIN IN CHARGE

The rites will be in charge of Chaplain Vincent Ehinger. Efforts are being made to get an honor guard of members of Company 'F', 115th Engineers, Nevada National Guard to accompany the body to the train. Following the services, the procession will make its way to the Southern Pacific depot, where the bodies will be shipped at 9:30 o'clock tonight.

PARTIAL EXPLANATION

A partial explanation gleaned from innumerable and conflicting reports of the cause of the boys' plight was heard at the scene of the fire and at Orovada, Nevada, by a representative. According to one report, Kirk Studabaker, proprietor of the Orovada Mercantile company, together with his wife, saw the fire start at 10:40 o'clock Friday morning and immediately telegraphed the fire to Ranger Paul Travis at Paradiise Valley. A crew of some 23 men was then dispatched with Foreman Wilbur Timmons in charge to the scene of the fire. It was rumored that the boys did not come into Orovada until late Saturday morning and went up into the fire area. The group with Timmons in charge arrived at 1:30 o'clock, it was rumored, and Timmons immediately took one squad of the men and put Project Assistant James at the head of the other.

All had fire-fighting equipment and went into fight the fire with one group going up one side of the canyon and the other contingent up the other side.

WIND SHIFTS

It is believed that the group were moving towards the fire, when the wind blew into a gale, shifted its course in such a manner to trap the contingents of both Timmons and Tippin but, with Timmons' crew gaining safety, it is then thought that Tippin's crew was unable to out-distance the blaze and gain the rocky knoll and onto the rocky knoll but were unsuccessful and the blaze, estimated to have been racing over the mountains at 45 miles per hour, overtaking the boys. At first thought to be only a small brush fire, the fire gained large proportions only by the high wind, which is credited with causing the death of the five men.

Although the rocky knoll afforded a place of safety, men, who were successful in gaining it, were trapped in for several hours from the effects of the dense smoke and burning air.

FIGHT FIRE

The Camp Paradiise forest service contingent of full company was summoned early Friday afternoon when the fire gained in proportion and when the wind came up, all available from Camp Quinn River, Camp McDermitt and Camp Golconda, totaling in all some 500 CCC youths, together with hay hands from the Utah Construction company ranch with Chalmers McCormick and other employees, all ranches in the district, numbering about 200 fought the fire from early Friday afternoon until it had been controlled early Saturday morning. It was contemplated to summon the Camp Lovelock and Camp Sheldon enrollees if the fire gained any greater in the proportion.

Expressed by Mrs. Kirk Studabaker, wife of the proprietor of the mercantile store at Orovada, as "Only 'the grace of God, and the fire roasting like the ocean," the ranch here, the vineyards and fields of the Rock Creek area, owned by the Galicia brother-

Engendering traffic and sending a pall of smoke over the entire valley and said to be visible for more than 100 miles, the racing fire, swept onward by a wind of gale proportions, jumped across the I. O. N. highway, now known as U. S. 35, south of Orovada, and burned a small area there before being extinguished. Traffic was directed on the I. O. N. highway and lights were necessary to pass through the area. The fire burned up along the I. O. N. highway for more than one mile but accidents on the highway were escaped. Highway Maintenance Supervisor R. P. Howers of Winnemucca was in charge.

3 CREKS
Area burned by the fire was 8,000 acres of brush and timberland, 400 acres of which was on the Toiyabe National forest, according to Alexander McQueen, director of the Toiyabe forest. Canyons gutted by the blaze included Rock Creek, McConnell Creek and Buffalo Creek and the entire area was burned clear of brush or shrub. The fire burned within one-quarter of a mile of Orovada.

Sheriff Eling Prout and Deputy Sheriff Jack Duviour of Winnemucca aided in directing fire fighting at the scene of the fire Friday night.

It is believed that a number of cattle, horses and sheep, known to have been grazing in that area, lost their lives but reports have not been confirmed.

DIRECT WORK

Directing the activities of the various companies although not directly in charge of their work were Captain C. Hickman, Camp Quinn River, division of grazing, number 85; Captain E. A. Fink, Camp McDermitt, division of grazing, number 120 in Oregon; Superintendent Lewis B. Jeannery, Camp Golconda, division of grazing, 120, in Nevada; Lieutenant Gerald Ford, Camp Paradiise, forest service, number 5. Lieutenant Anton Keszyczyk is commanding officer for Camp Golconda but remained in Winnemucca to oversee arrangements relative to the fire and shipment of the bodies. Captain George Setz is commanding officer for Camp Paradiise, but arrived in Winnemucca only Sunday morning, unimpaired of the disaster, from detached service.

Remaining at the fire during the entire night Friday were Kirk Studabaker and Doctor W. Groves, CCC physician-surgeon, who is stationed at Camp Paradiise, while

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INQUEST UNDERWAY

Inquest into the death of the five enrollees was well underway late this afternoon with a number of witnesses heard at Orovada, where the probe is being conducted by orator I. W. Minor of McDermitt, who examined the bodies when they were brought to Orovada. It began this morning at 10:00 o'clock.

Dan and Joe Galicia, sons of Frank Galicia of the Rock Creek ranch, narrowly escaped death when the horse on which they were riding was caught by the racing blaze but escaped serious injury. The rear end of a Camp Paradiise CCC truck was burned. A number of civilians, who were fighting the blaze, narrowly escaped injury or death, when the wind shifted the fire and it bore down on them but they succeeded in running out of its wale.

Edges of the burned area continued to smoke Saturday morning and was extinguished by a rain of almost cloudburst proportions late Saturday morning.

Memorial services for the five youths, who lost their lives, were held Sunday morning at 6:30 o'clock at the Catholic church in Winnemucca and attended by all officers and enrollees at the camp there. Services were conducted by Chaplain Vincent Ehinger.

First news of the extent of the fire was received in Winnemucca early Friday evening and brought by Chaplain Ehinger. Winnemucca's civic bodies and individuals immediately advanced all methods to aid with Stephenson's Drug company and John I. Black, providing some 1,500 sandwiches, the American Legion and Auxiliary going to Veterans' hall and preparing sandwiches and coffee for the fire-fighters, the Chamber of Commerce, the Humboldt county chapter of American Red Cross and Winnemucca Lions club, through President J. A. Anderson, provided their utmost to aid the fire-fighters with more than 5,000 sandwiches sent from Winnemucca to Orovada as well as coffee, tobacco and medical supplies, while other Winnemuccans added to bring relief to the fire-fighters.

Headquarters of the fire fighters was at the store of Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Studabaker at Orovada, where aid was provided during the night as well as Friday and Saturday.

Large bundles of old newspapers, 10 cents.—Star Office.

SCHOOL
Clark county during the year 1917, 3,662 students, were boys and girls according to the report of the State Department of Education. The total enrollment in the schools, 2,578 in 1917 were male and 1,084 were female.

PROJECT

Final approval at Washington of the project which will provide for the development of 3 million acres of Nevada lands and the opening and re-occupancy of the State of Nevada.

Another chaplain, Gilbert, died near a cañon in Douglas. Mrs. Gilbert's husband, who took his wife to that of his car.

NEW POI

Frank Wolf, of guards at the prison and for sheriff in Las Vegas his duties as V police on August pointment from a battling city appointment as Thursday night and his four in complete acceptance since in place last month.

EXPRESS

With several items made in more anticipation of officials of the new company that the unemployed waiting with more on the next move of the bureau of the board, it was high source this.

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FORGET SOMETHING