

Engineer was in hospital, under arrest after wreck

By Evelyn Ward

Sherman County Historical Society
June 1, 1904: Timothy J. Lee, formerly a Rock Island engineer, who at one time lived in Goodland, is in a hospital at Zacatecas, Mexico, suffering from injuries received in a wreck of a train on the Mexican Central railway, on which he was employed as an engineer.

He is also under arrest, charged with fast running. Frank Lee, who is a police captain in Denver and a brother of the engineer, has taken steps to invoke the authority of the United States government, through the state department, to obtain the release of his brother.

Mrs. Lee, the wife of the injured and imprisoned engineer, and five children are at the family home in Denver.

The engineer's story of the acci-

today in history

dent and the inhuman treatment to which he has been subjected is contained in the following letter, which will be used to urge the demand for his release: "I was employed as engineer on the Mexican Central railroad and was pulling a passenger train the day the accident occurred. "I was descending a heavy grade about three miles north of Zacatecas, when the engine jumped the track and turned over on a very sharp curve. I did not have time to jump and went with the engine. "I was pretty badly hurt in the stomach and left arm, left hip and ribs and cut in the forehead, but fortunately escaped without any broken bones. I can sit up now and walk a few steps. I did so today and am

all here yet.

"The fireman was killed, four of the coaches were smashed to splinters, and 13 passengers were killed and 40 injured. I was taken from the wreck to the Mexican hospital as a prisoner, by the Mexican authorities, the charge against me being fast running.

"I do not know what they will do with me. I don't see anybody to talk to and cannot tell how long I may be kept here. They don't give me half enough to eat. I have soldiers guarding me night and day.

"I was only 'extra' on the passenger run, and it was my first trip over the division. I did not know the road and had a big heavy consolidated freight engine, and she went over

hard and quick.

"I have not heard anything from the railroad company and do not know what they intend to do. The train I was pulling is a fast train, and I was not exceeding schedule time. In fact, I was losing time, as the engine was not good enough for the run.

"A sick man might just as well go to his grave as to a Mexican hospital, for all the care and nursing he will get. When I first came in here, I had to lie flat on my back. In other words, I could not help myself.

"I was black from coal and covered with blood, and I laid here on my back for ten days before I got my hands and face washed. The doctor, a Mexican, comes every day at 10 o'clock, and if you were dying, he would not come again.

"The fare is both scant and com-

mon. They seem to be totally indifferent to the condition of a patient. There have been engineers kept in jail here for years, and there have been others who have gained their liberty through the influence of the department of state.

"I cannot see that I have committed any crime, as I was attending strictly to my business. I think you should bring the matter to the attention of John Hay, secretary of state, and I think he would have me released and get me indemnity from the Mexican government."

June 2, 1904: A shop workman, L.F. Cooper, met with a serious accident in the railroad shops Saturday afternoon. Cooper was chiseling the boxing of a drive wheel when a piece of metal struck him in the right eye, cutting the cornea.

Dr. Gulick was called and upon

examination advised Master Mechanic Leeman to send the injured man to Denver for treatment. He was sent on No. 41, and Dr. Bain was informed to meet Cooper at the depot.

He was taken to St. Luke's hospital and operated on. No metal was found, and after dressing the eye, the doctor was of the opinion that the sight would not be lost. Cooper came home Tuesday. Dr. Bain is a graduate of the same medical school as Dr. Gulick, and the speedy treatment by a specialist probably saved a month's stay in the hospital.

From weekly issues of The Goodland News, provided by the Sherman County Historical Society. Since the paper was published weekly, some items were arbitrarily assigned a date.

Senator's death an unforeseen tragedy; God offers comfort in Bible

Often in the wake of tragedy, people say that it was the "will of God." If someone has died, that God "took him." After the tragic death of Sen. Stan Clark in a car accident Saturday, I feel a need to remind especially those who knew and cared about him, that the Bible in no way says that such events are God's will.

Would a loving God take a husband and father from his family? No, without question, He wouldn't.

So why do such things happen? Ecclesiastes 9:11 tells us: "I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all."

No matter who we are or what kind of life we lead, we are all capable of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. It is not God's di-



sharon corcoran

• use it or lose it

rection that anyone suffer or meet an early death.

As a matter of fact, at Genesis 2:17, God warned Adam not to do something that would lead to his death: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

We know that Adam did not listen, and because of that, we all die. Romans 3:23 says: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

We are all sinners because we are descendants of Adam, who failed to heed God's warning, and that is why

all of us die.

Ezekiel 33:11 tells us that God does not want even the wicked to die, but would rather they change their ways and live. He has even warned wicked ones to change their ways, so they can live: "Say unto them, 'As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?'"

Even though we are all descendants of Adam and die because we inherited his sinful nature, God has made the way for us to have everlasting life. Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift God gives is everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

At great sacrifice to himself, God

allowed His beloved firstborn son to die on our behalf to give us the sure hope of everlasting life. Romans 8:19, 21 says, "For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. . . . Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage to corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God."

Jesus taught his followers at Matthew 6:9, 10 to pray for God's kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth. When that kingdom comes, mankind will be released from bondage to sin and receive many blessings.

Jesus demonstrated many of those blessings during his lifetime. Luke 7: 22 tells us about some: "Then Jesus answering said unto them, 'Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the

poor the gospel is preached.'"

Under God's kingdom, the sick and the disabled will be cured, and even those who have died will be resurrected. The Bible assures us of this.

Does this mean we shouldn't grieve when someone we care about dies? No. Even Jesus grieved at the death of his friend Lazarus, and he knew he would resurrect his friend in moments.

John 11: 32-35 says, "Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, 'Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.' When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, and said, 'Where have ye laid him?' They said unto him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept."

Losing a loved one in death is tragic, even if you know and believe God will resurrect that one. It would

hurt even if you knew he would be raised up tomorrow.

But God offers comfort to those dealing with any difficulties in life, including the death of a loved one. 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4 says, "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

When I met Senator Clark, he thanked me for writing "the Christian articles" in the paper and said he really enjoyed reading them. I am always glad to hear that someone enjoys reading what I have written, and I am grateful that he told me he did.

I send my condolences to his family and friends and hope they can draw comfort from God and from the scriptures in this difficult time.

Summer setting in after graduations

School's out, local graduations are over, and summer is setting itself firmly in place. And we are not having



sally michael

• brewster beacon

terribly hot weather, so maybe this is what they always called spring. Whatever it is, I like it.

Barbara Springsteen has now become a citizen of Garden City, and we hope she is enjoying her new environment. We welcome the new folks who have moved in and hope they find Brewster to their liking.

We also welcome the new folks in the former Mark Wood home. And we hope the Woods will be happy in Colby. It won't be long before Paula (Lewallen) and Cliff Fox will be moved into the former home of Lucille and Francis Lewallen, and we wish them the very best and are glad they chose Brewster to return to.

Also, Jamie and Mark Flanders are getting settled in their new home at Iowa and Second Street, and there are others whose homes are for sale.

Sometimes I think moving would be a good way to clean the

house, but it would sure be a lot of work, and I'm not ready for the challenge right now. This looks like a good time to mention the city-wide garage sale, which will be held Saturday. That is a good time to start getting things thinned out.

You have until Wednesday to get things organized. Since we were hoping to be in Montana at that time, we didn't get started searching out all the extra stuff Roger has on hand. Naturally, I don't have any junk. . . . There seem to be several who are ready, so be sure to come to Brewster for the sale beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday.

We went to Hays Thursday for our grandson Nathaniel's eighth-grade graduation from High Plains Baptist School. Whenever we attend a program at this school, we are reminded of the school programs that were enjoyed while we were growing up.

It is hard to believe that taking prayer out of school meant that

everything would change as much as it did. None of our kids were ever in school at a time when prayer was allowed.

I can't help but think they lost more than we ever thought possible, just because of that ruling. Next year, Nathaniel will be in Hays High, and I think he will notice the difference.

In my last column, I reported that LaVelle was in the hospital. He is home now and doing better with a new medication. Hopefully, he will continue to gain ground and be able to enjoy the spring and summer.

Saturday, there were many workers at the Lutheran parsonage, and they had the house cleaned and painted in very short order. It was good to see how organized and efficient they all were, and the house looks very nice.

That's about all the news for now, except I am sorry I was misinformed on the Querys' anniversary time. I was told their 65th anniversary was to be in August, but instead it was May 20th, so to Elmer and Maxine, "Happy Anniversary!"

That's it for this week. A special "thank you" to Sharon for proofing my column and helping me keep things in order. See you next time.

Salad recipes use spring's green things

Spring brings forth green growing things, reminding me of salads. Brother Victor-Antoine d'Avila-Latourrette in "Twelve Months of Monastery Salads" gives 200 divine recipes for all seasons. The following recipes are from that book.

Asparagus, beet and egg salad

pinch of salt
 20 asparagus stalks, bottoms trimmed off
 2 cups peeled and cubed beets
 1/2 cup olive oil
 1/2 cup vinegar
 1 tablespoon Dijon, Meaux or another French mustard
 1 small shallot, minced
 salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

1 small head tender escarole, separated into leaves
 4 hard boiled eggs, peeled and chopped

Bring to boiling a large saucepan full of water. Add asparagus and salt and cook for about 3 minutes. Drain and rinse with cold water. Drain again and set aside.

In a medium saucepan of boiling salt water cook beets until tender about 6 minutes. Drain and rinse under cold water and drain again. Set aside.

Whisk olive oil, vinegar, mustard,

pat schiefen

• postscript

shallot, salt and pepper in a small bowl until thickens.

On four salad plates arrange 3 escarole leaves. Arrange 5 asparagus with cubed beets on both sides on top of the leaves. Evenly distribute chopped eggs over the four servings. Whisk the vinaigrette again and pour evenly over each plate. Serve immediately. Serves four.

Stuffed melon salad

Salad
 2 small ripe melons of your choice
 1 1/2 cups cottage cheese
 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
 1/2 seedless raisins
 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 a few fresh mint leaves, finely chopped

Dressing
 1/2 cup half and half
 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 1 teaspoon paprika
 1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
 1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon honey
 pinch of white pepper

Cut melons in half lengthwise and scoop out the seeds. Keep in the refrigerator until ready to serve.

Combine cottage, walnuts, raisins, nutmeg and mint and mix well with a fork in a deep bowl.

Blend dressing ingredients in a blender until smooth. Adjust seasoning to your taste.

Take melons out of the refrigerator when ready to serve. Fill the centers with the cottage cheese mixture. Evenly divide the dressing over the 4 melon halves and serve immediately. Serves 4.

Tomato, onion and mozzarella salad

6 large ripe red tomatoes, sliced
 3 large ripe yellow tomatoes, sliced
 1 medium size red onion, thinly sliced
 16 leaves fresh basil or more to taste
 1/2 pound fresh mozzarella cheese, sliced
 extra virgin olive oil to taste
 Balsamic vinegar to taste
 sea salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
 black olives, 4 per plate (optional), for garnish

Arrange the slices of tomatoes, with some red and some yellow, on 6 or 8 salad plates. Over the tomatoes layer onion slices, basil leaves and mozzarella.

When ready to serve, lightly sprinkle each with some olive oil and balsamic vinegar to taste. Salt and pepper to your taste. Add 4 olives for garnish to each plate if desired. Serves 6 to 8.

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