

Linden HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY, 1935 ACCIDENT SHOOK LINDEN TO CORE

A tragic car-truck accident in January, 1935 took the lives of two Linden men and seriously injured a third. News of the traumatic event sent shock waves of grief through the Linden area.

William Leroy Treloar, age 22 and commonly known as Roy was killed instantly; William Tobias Faull died five days later in Madison General hospital and Harry Beerkircher, 28, was seriously injured, and disabled. Those in Linden who were not related to the three were otherwise connected by friendship.

The burden of sorrow fell heaviest on Laura (Treloar) Faull, widow of Will and Aunt to Roy. From the obituary of Roy Treloar we learn: "(Roy) was a son of Edward and Sarah Treloar. His mother died when he was ten months old and he was taken to the home of his aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. Wm. T. Faull of Linden. He has made this home happy, living as a son to them and a brother to their daughter, Eunice."

Roy was a graduate of Linden High School, class of 1931. He was active in both the Primitive Methodist and M.E. churches in Linden. The obituary noted, "He was a young man of good character and good habits, beloved by all who knew him."

William T. Faull was known in Linden as Will, because there was a William R. Faull whom everyone called Bill to distinguish the two. In fact,



Roy Treloar

both the *Mineral Point Democrat* and *Dodgeville Chronicle* mis-identified "Will" when they stated that William R. Faull was injured in articles on the accident.

ACCIDENT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

For most of his life, Will was a blacksmith for several Linden mines. When the great depression closed most of the local mines he opened up a shoe repair shop on Main street. Harry Beerkircher ran a grocery store located on the present day site of the American Legion building.

The three men were on the way to Madison to witness the inauguration of Governor Philip La Follette. Fog and ice made driving hazardous.

The *Dodgeville Chronicle* reported, "At the foot of a hill, this side of Blue Mounds, on Highway 18, about 150 feet from the Dane County line, the car and truck crashed with great force, driving both vehicles to the south side of the road. It was not a head-on collision as the Chevrolet was struck about half way back on the left side as if it had been skidding or turning off the road in an effort to avoid a collision. The truck, which was a A.W. Sweet fruit truck, driven by Joseph Miller of Waunakee, had swung from the right side of the road to pass a Dane county highway truck which was parked on the highway. The driver of the highway truck was out ascertaining a proper place to turn the truck around. He and Will McSherry, who lives nearby, were among the first at the scene of the crash."

It was stated that Treloar was thrown from the car and died instantly. Faull suffered a fractured skull, never regained consciousness, contracted pneumonia and died. Harry would later marry Maxine Quick of Montfort and they lived out their life in Madison.

The Late Hobart Tredinnick wrote several short stories of his memories in Linden for our archives and the loss of Treloar and Faull was noted. Hobart knew the crash victims well and expounded on why they were on their way to Madison that fateful day.

Hobart stated that in September, 1934 Philip La Follette made a campaign stop at the Linden Field Days celebration at the park. Hobart wrote of La Follette, "He was young and a very promising, progressive candidate (for governor). He gave a very good but short oration in regard to the programs he was advocating. At the end of his speech he was facing south; he remarked what a beautiful country side surrounded the area. There had been sufficient rain fall in late summer, crops were better; people were feeling much encouraged and impressed by the inspirational speech. Harry Beerkircher and Will T. Faull and others welcomed the candidate, they were inspired by his charismatic appeal."

Hobart surmised, "It was never revealed but very likely some business and local supporters of the newly elected governor were extended formal invitations to the inauguration."

Will Faull was described by Hobart as a very kind and helpful man. His shoe repair shop was an important depression era business. Roy Treloar was depicted as an "able and dedicated employee" by Hobart at the Linden Cheese Factory. Also Hobart stated, "Harry Beerkircher could no longer operate his thriving grocery store."

Thanks to Randy Baker and Catherine Whitford for information on this article.

100 YEARS AGO—JANUARY, 1916

HICKS HOTEL FIRE DESTROYED LANDMARK

Early January, 1916 close to midnight fire was discovered between the floor of the second story and ceiling of the first story of the Hicks Hotel building. The fire spread rapidly with dense smoke throughout the building. Henry Walker was the owner of the property and lost almost everything except a few pieces of furniture from the first floor.

Forty guests at the hotel escaped into the street. No account exists as to what arrangements were made for their lodging, presumably Linden residents took them in for the night.



The loss to Linden was huge, gone in a few hours was the pride of the downtown, however it would be re-built and look very similar to the original structure. The former hotel is now an apartment building on the corner of Highway 39 and Main Street.

A TRIP TO HAWAII WITHOUT LEAVING LINDEN

When the Hicks hotel was re-built it featured an auditorium on the second floor which was used frequently for all kinds of events. In March, 1920 residents were treated to what must have been a spectacular performance from a touring theatrical group.

Mr. Vogt operated a grocery store and pharmacy on the first floor with an auditorium and stage upstairs. After the performance the chairs would have been stowed away and the large room became a dance hall. Curiously, this ad that appeared in the February 26, 1920 *Dodgeville Chronicle* does not list a starting time for the program.

No doubt this was an excellent way to chase away the winter blues with a one night stand in Hawaii.

MICRO-FILM OF LINDEN NEWSPAPER ADDED TO COLLECTIONS

The board of the Linden Historical Society voted to purchase the micro-film record of *The Linden Conservative* newspaper. It is now available for viewing at the Mineral Point Archives in the Mineral Point public library at their regular hours on Thursday and Saturday. The roll was purchased from the State Historical Society at a cost of \$82.50, and is on loan to the Mineral Point archives. The only other place to view this micro-film is at the State Historical Society in Madison. The Iowa County Historical Society and the Area Research Center

VOGT'S THEATRE

LINDEN, WIS.

WED., MARCH 3rd.

<p>Princess MONEULEWA The World's Greatest Hula-Hula Dancer</p> <p>ROLLIN PAIA THE UKELELE KING</p> <p>Corine Kawaa HAWAIIAN Nightingale</p> <p>JOSEPH NAWAHI Wizzard of the steel guitar</p> <p>JADA and his talking VIOLIN</p>	<p>Winter Evening</p> <p>Mid The Palm Graced Isles of Beautiful Sun Kissed Hawaii</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gardner Brothers Present The Sensational Super-Photoplay MY HAWAIIAN ALOHA Companion Play to the "The Bird of Paradise" with THE ROYAL HAWAIIANS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Genuine Native Musicians — Singers and Dancers. A real novelty, the only Ha- waiian Jazz Orchestra touring this coun- try—Something different.</p>	<p>See---</p> <p>THE BURNING VOLCANO THE STORM AT SEA THE HUMAN SACRIFICE THE ROYAL HIWAIANS</p> <p>The Wonderful Court Room Scene</p> <p>The Screen Favorites ENID MARKEY and WILLARD MACK</p> <p>The Only Hawaiian JAZZ ORCHESTRA Touring This Country</p>
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2 in 1 The Thos. Ince Photo Play, "My Hawaiian Aloha," featuring Enid Markey, W. Mack and **10 Big Hawaiian Vaudeville Numbers**

Big Dance After the Show

Music By Princess Monuelewa's 5 Piece Hawaiian Orchestra.

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