

Ship Hits Wire In City; Second Capsizes at Lake

2 Men Injured in Riverside Drive Mishap and 2 Have Narrow Escape in Accident at Harvey's Lake

Two airplanes fell within three hours last night in Wyoming Valley.

The first plunged at Old River Road and Riverside Drive while taking off from Susquehanna River. Two men were injured.

Three hours later another amphibian crashed while landing at Harvey's Lake, near the Picnic Ground.

2 Have Narrow

Escape at Harvey's Lake

Within three hours after an amphibian plane crashed in Wilkes-Barre, two occupants of a similar type plane escaped death by dousing when their plane crashed in Harvey's Lake and overturned.

A Fleetwing Seabird, owned by Philip Williams Airplane Corporation, Easton, and leased by Leonard L. J. Sney, 27, of 425 South Blakely Street, Dunmore, and Stephen Baint, 32, of 38 Elizabeth Street, crashed in the lake at Picnic Grounds shortly before 8 last night.

Sney, pilot of the plane, and Baint, head of the plane from the Easton company last week and went out with the plane, he thought of buying it. The plane was based at Wyoming Valley Airport at Forty Fort.

Fasten Buckles Indisposed Taking off from the airport yesterday afternoon, the two men landed on the lake several times. On the last take-off from the lake, the right wing position became dislodged and was not on the water.

The young men took the plane about without any trouble and were around the position in an effort to pick it up. The right wing started to dip as they circled around the position in an effort to pick it up.

Herbert Paids, head boatman for Earl MacCallum at Picnic Grounds, saw the position and took the motor boat out and picked up the position.

Meantime Chief of Police Fred Swanson had been driving around the lake on patrol and was passing the Picnic Grounds at the time.

Jump From Cockpit

Swanson said he tried to wave the plane toward the shore for the men to beach it but they did not see him. He had to jump into the boat with Paids and went out to the plane and instructed the men to take it out into deeper water.

This time, he said, they followed instructions and started taking the plane off to where the water was shallow. He had to jump into the boat with Paids and went out to the plane and instructed the men to take it out into deeper water.

Fields and Swanson then hooked a rope on the strut of the plane and started towing the capsize plane toward the shore. Sney and Baint were not making any headway, they released the rope and hooked it into the ring on the nose of the plane and brought it to shore, tying it to a post at the Picnic Grounds.

Sney and Baint were taken to the Harvey's Lake police station where they were given dry clothes and stimulants and also 22 hours' compliments of Chief Swanson.

Defective Indictment Wins Slayer Appeal

Austin, Tex., May 21 (AP)—An indictment which failed to allege use of force in the fatal slaying of a 17-year-old woman today won dismissal in the Court of Criminal Appeals of a case in which Justice Brantley, in had been given the death sentence by a Dallas County trial court.

The Appeal Court declared in its majority opinion that "it is now an established rule in this State that an indictment should be so certain and definite in its averments that it leaves nothing to be supplied by intendment or inference."

Mothers had been indicted for slaying and slaying in the death of Paula McMillan, a Dallas County girl. No mention was made in the indictment that the act was committed with a knife.

Under the ruling, mothers may be indicted and tried again.

7,000,000 Reappraised

London, May 21 (AP)—More than 7,000,000 displaced persons in Europe have been reappraised, said the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the displacement of more than 70,000 remains to be settled, he said.

Wire Severs Wing of

Ship Leaving River

Two persons narrowly escaped death of serious injury last evening at 10-09 when their amphibian crashed at Riverside Drive and Old River Road after being caught in a down draft over Susquehanna River.

Daniel Berrettini, 37, of 380 North Main Street, Plains, pilot, was in Mercy Hospital with a lacerated chest which required two sutures, laceration of scalp in two places, abrasion of right knee. He was held for observation with one X-ray of skull to be taken today.

Francis Courson, 45, of Wyoming Hill 3, a passenger, was at Mercy Hospital for a lacerated right eye, bruises of right shoulder and right knee.

The plane, a Republic CB four passenger amphibian, was owned by Clifford Carr, Bunker Hill, Kingston Township, and was delivered to Carr on March 14. The plane was based at Wyoming Valley Airport at Forty Fort.

Berrettini told Detective John Dunn and James Duffy he landed the plane on the river and was taxiing in a westerly direction, preparatory to a take-off. When the plane was 100 feet off the river it suddenly hit a down draft, he said, causing the plane to drop at an angle. When it hit the down draft, Berrettini said, he lost control of the plane.

Wire Severs Wing

Plane then headed toward Old River Road where it struck a ground wire of Pennsylvania Power and the company, severing the right wing and causing the plane to nose dive into the ground.

Berrettini told the police if the right wing of the plane had not struck the ground wire, the plane would have landed on the tops of several automobiles parked on Riverside Drive.

Leo Smith of 30 Wright Street, who was traveling on Old River Road, saw the plane crash through the wire 200 feet in front of his automobile and nose dived into the ground.

Smith said he rushed over to the plane broke the glass and pulled the occupants, who were drenched from the plane, fearing the gasoline would ignite. He placed the injured men in his automobile and rushed them to Mercy Hospital.

Firesmen from Engine 1, an oblong truck, were dispatched to the scene shortly after the crash.

The firesmen turned the ambulance into the engine. Several other witnesses, among the hundreds who rushed to the scene of the crash, said the plane came up out of the river and then seemed to fall 20 feet, crashing into the ground wire. They said the plane barely cleared the passing station at the intersection of the two roads.

Watching the accident investigations of the amphibian, Al Brantstone and his son, "Doc" Brantstone, hearing disaster, started on the run in the direction of the field, but open door of the plane and helped the men out of the plane.

"Doc" Brantstone, a witness of The Blitz, saved two boys from drowning at Harvey's Lake several years ago.

Brantstone said the amphibian took off from the river, suddenly swinging over, struck a wire and crashed into a tree in the field then climbed about 75 feet, finally landing on its left wing in a gully.

Also among the first on hand to aid the amphibian victims were Irving Patton, a bus driver for Davis and his son, Robert Patton, who were observing the Connecticut plane from the back window of their home, "Red" Patton, forward on St. Mary's basketball team, and one of the men from the house just behind the field.

Irving Patton said that he was afraid the plane would hit the house and that he called the fire department. It was the fire department, he said, that saw the plane and saw it evidently had promise of being enough to hold off for a moment before the plane hit the tree.

When the plane hit the small locust tree the airplane was torn off the rear of the plane, falling at foot of the tree. After traveling about 25 feet farther, the plane fell into the ground, landing on its right wing which was embedded in the impact, its left wing shooting into the air. But as the plane was scattered in every direction, however, none were scattered around the wing of the plane.