
MANJIMUP-PEMBERTON TIMES

SERVING MANJIMUP SINCE 1975

Friday 26th June 2096

BLACKWOOD VICTIMS RECOVERED

The bodies of all but two of the victims of Tuesday's Blackwood River Disaster have been recovered, according to a statement released by the Blackwood River Water Company at 10:00am this morning.

The majority of the victims were found among the partially submerged wreckage of their barracks three kilometres down the river from the work camp. Two more were found slightly further downstream. All have been recovered from the river, and returned to the work camp where they are being prepared for burial or return to their families.

Two workers are currently unaccounted for. Alex Dainton (25) of Pemberton and Matt Weaver (20) of Manjimup. Hopes are not held for their survival.

The contracts signed by workers at the site do not cover funeral expenses, however in light of the unusual nature of the disaster the company has agreed to cover all costs. Most victims will be returned to their next of kin, but some (who did not supply next of kin details) will be buried near the work site.

In an ironic twist it has emerged that the victims were members of a newly created 'elite' work gang, selected for the superior quality of their workmanship, and only moved into their new 'more luxurious' barracks on Sunday. It is understood the Company was trying to increase productivity by fostering a friendly rivalry between work gangs. After the events of Tuesday night the future of this scheme is unknown.

The bodies of the local victims are expected to arrive in Manjimup on Monday. Funeral arrangements will be announced as soon as they are available.

RIVER SURGES 'NOT UNCOMMON'

The surge that killed 22 workers on the Blackwood River on Tuesday night are 'not uncommon' at this time of year, according to locals in Nannup and Bridgetown.

"In the summer when there ain't enough water the river gets choked up with dead branches and trees and the like," explains Bridgetown farmer Ben Drago "Then when the winter rains come in the river gets banked up behind 'em, then bursts through, and you get a surge".

Nannup local Sara Hester says surges can be extremely destructive "They can take out bridges and wash away stock easily. I lost four aurochs that way a few years back".

Some are questioning why the dam wasn't built to withstand this well known hazard. "Whoever designed that dam weren't doing their job! They shoulda known about the surges and bin ready for 'em!" commented a drinker (who declined to be named) at the Blackwood Bank Inn in Bridgetown.

The Blackwood River Water Company issued a statement earlier today saying that the dam had been designed with river surges in mind, and why it failed despite this is being investigated.

AGREEMENT ON RAIL DEAL

The long running rail fued between Hawkes and Barrets Mills was resolved today when representatives from both companies met in Pemberton and signed a contract covering tarrifs on the southern section of the line.

"This is a historic day for both our companies, and for the milling industry in D'Entrecasteaux" said Barrets Manager Harald Romsdal outside the meeting.

The dispute has been running for five years, since Barrets denied Hawkes carts access to the southern portion of the line in April 2091. Access was restored via a court order in June, but often stormy negotiations and industrial action have continued ever since.

The new arrangement places a 2% tarrif on Hawkes carts operating south of Pemberton, and a 5% tarrif on Barrets carts operating north of Manjimup. No tarrifs will be charged on the central portion of the line. Standards have also been set up regulating the transfer of loads between carts, and passing procedures at the Jardee yard.

The Manjimup-Pemberton Times has been serving the people of Manjimup since 1975 and the State of D'Entrecasteaux since 2044. To stick around that long we've got to be good! Visit us at 25 Rose Street to see how our low advertising rates can help your business!

MANJIMUP-PEMBERTON TIMES

SERVING MANJIMUP SINCE 1975

Friday 26th June 2096

MILL WORKER DOING WELL

Bill Campbell - the saw driver injured at the Deanmill lumber yard - is reported to be doing well.

The 23 year old had his left leg partially severed when he accidentally fell into a sawpit on Thursday morning. Prompt action by his co-workers shut down the saw and he was rushed to the Manjimup hospital where doctors placed him into immediate surgery. After several hours they were able to save his leg, and he is now recovering.

"We were determined not to amputate if we could possibly manage it," commented head surgeon Julia Fowler "He's a young man with the rest of his life ahead of him, we thought he should face it on two feet. He'll probably end up with a limp, but that's a lot better than a stump."

Mr Campbell's family say they have been overwealmed by the support they've received and have thanked the community on Bill's behalf. Wellwishers may leave cards and gifts at the main desk of the hospital.

CAMN EXPANDS TERRITORY

Reports from the Warlord Realms indicate that Eli Camn has expanded his territory, seizing control of Baudin from the forces of Bill 'Prince Willy' Caddigan earlier this month. This expands his realm to most of the eastern Whicher Ranges, with only the Barker aligned Mile Easy shanty town holding out.

Analysts expect him to launch an attack on Mile Easy by the end of next month. His success will depend on whether the notoriously changeable Anthony Barker honours his treaties with the town. Barker is currently skirmishing with Alexis Vasse in the Whichers and may not be willing to divert troops to defend the settlement.

EARLY RAINS HOPEFUL TREND

The first major rains of the year fell in the western Settlements earlier this week, which according to the Pemberton Meteorological office is a continuation of a hopeful trend towards climate recovery.

"When you look at the records, the rains are coming earlier and earlier each year," explains Dr Simon Kelly. "On average they're arriving two weeks earlier than they did twenty years ago, and three weeks earlier than thirty years ago. This is a very hopeful sign".

Total annual rainfall throughout the western Settlements and States has also been above average for the last six years, although there has been little change in the east.


PAPER SUBSIDY MAINTAINED

The State Congress voted forty-nine to six yesterday (with two abstaining) to maintain the subsidy on paper exports. This was despite pressure from Porongurup and Denmark to remove the 3% Special Assistance Subsidy voted in to support the timber industry in 2081.

"Once again cool heads have prevailed on this important issue" commented Paul Vick, Representative for Deanmill. Sun-Lee Carter, Representative for Windy Harbour was less supportive. "This subsidy was brought in as an emergency measure after the Black Tuesday fires. The forests have recovered and the paper industry is thriving - the subsidy is nothing but an impediment to trade".

Terrance Bell, Special Envoy from Porongurup, was cautious in his comments. "Albany of course respects the decision of the D'Entrecasteaux Congress. However we remain opposed to protectionism in all forms and hope this issue will continue to be debated".

The subsidy is next due for renewal in September 2097.



D'ENTRECASTEAUX NEEDS YOU!

Excellent Pay, Expert Training, Quick Advancement
for Recruits Showing Promise.

Opportunities for Officers and Enlisted Troops.

Defend Your State! Join the Defence Corps!

Contact your local Recruitment Officer or Garrison.

MANJIMUP-PEMBERTON TIMES

SERVING MANJIMUP SINCE 1975

Friday 26th June 2096

SLAVES LIBERATED IN PAGET JUNCTION

DDC forces raided a slaver camp in Paget Junction last month liberating 34 slaves, the Defence Department announced yesterday. The action was taken after a request from Nannup, who reported that several citizens from the western Settlements were among the captives.

The slavers were tracked for two weeks, from the vicinity of Nannup to the ruins of Paget Junction. DDC forces operating from Jangardup then moved in on the 25th, capturing or killing all the slavers and rescuing the captives, most of whom have since returned to their homes. Five have applied for asylum under the Anti-Slavery Act, and their claims are currently being processed.

The captured slavers will be tried in Pemberton next month. Prosecutors are expected to request the death penalty.

BURKES RAIDED

The notorious Burke's Tavern in Chopping Town was raided in an action by the DDC last night.

According to a statement released by Commander Davis the Troopers were acting on information concerning an illegal cock-fighting ring in operation at the well known nightspot. Several arrests were made on the spot, and a number of patrons detained - four were later charged.

Burke's is expected to remain closed for at least a week while the DDC complete their enquiries.

DAVIS CARTWRIGHTS

Manufacturer of fine carts and buggies since 2072. 15 Mount Street Manjimup

WEEKLY FARMERS' MARKET

From 7:30am Saturday at the Manjimup Market Site

"When winter first begins to bite, and stones crack in the frosty night, When pools are black and trees are bare, 'tis evil in the Wild to fare"

But if you have to, make sure you have the right gear! Digby's General Store and Outfitters. 18 Rose Street Manjimup.

WORK MUSTER

The Blackwood River Water Company needs fit, strong men for the Blackwood River Dam project. Think you have what it takes? Assemble at 7:00am Sunday or Monday at the Company Offices on Brockman Street, Manjimup. Excellent pay offered for hard workers.

HOT BATHS

After a long day on the road relax and get clean in a steaming hot bath at the Wormwood Bath House. Unlimited hot water and soap supplied. 5 Hospital Avenue Manjimup. (Management would like to remind customers that the Wormwood Bath House is a reputable business and offers BATHS only with no 'additional' services)

WHAT'S THAT SMELL?!

You probably don't want to know, so call Penn and Sons Plumbing and Drainage today!

ATTENTION WORKERS!

Be at your best for your next interview. Haircuts and shaves starting from \$4.00. Cage's Barbary. 21 Bath Street, Manjimup

LEGAL PROBLEMS?

Seir and Wong Attorneys at Law. 4 Brockman Street, Manjimup

Mr and Mrs Michael Coombs of Edward Street are pleased to announce the engagement of their son John to Elisabeth Fanning of Jardee, with a wedding date to be announced.

ATTENTION CATHOLICS

Father Jacob San will be offering Confession and Holy Communion at the Manjimup Town Hall on Sunday from 10:00am.

For Sale: Large canvas tent - sleeps 4. Excellent condition. \$90 or nearest offer. Enquire at Railway Hotel bar.

THE HAMMER OF THE GODS WILL DRIVE OUR SHIPS TO NEW LANDS!

Rogers. You can pick up your auroch when you're prepared to pay for the damage it did. Peirce.

Wanted - old clothes in any condition. Reasonable payment offered. Enquire at the Times office.

If 'The Hammer of the Gods' does not cease his persecution of my person and business I shall have no option but to go to the troopers.

- Shaw

**YOUR MESSAGE COULD BE
HERE! Enquire about our
excellent rates at the Times Office**
